

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DUMFRIES

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE
HEALTH AND SANITARY
CONDITIONS OF THE
COUNTY

1956

DUMFRIES.

ROBERT DINWIDDIE & Co. LTD., PRINTERS AND LITHOGRAPHERS

STAFF, 1956

(1) MEDICAL STAFF.

County Medical Officer and Chief Social Welfare Officer.

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Depute Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

JAMES DAVID RAMSAY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers and School Medical Officers.

AGNES F. TURNER, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

MARGARET CARRIE, M.B., CH.B., D.C.H. (Appointed 1/3/56)

(2) DENTAL STAFF.

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WILLIAM C. S. CHRYSTIE, L.D.S., R.F.P.S. (Glas.)

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ROBERT CARSON, L.D.S., R.C.S.

JAMES M. CRINGEAN, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Dental Attendants.

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ISABEL KAY.

MARION JOHNSTONE.

RUTH MELVILLE.

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Chemists.

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JOHN PARK, B.SC., F.R.I.C. (Appointed 3/10/56).

Laboratory Assistants.

MARGARET CRAVEN.

CAROL SIMMS (Resigned 19/2/56).

PHYLLIS DICKSON (Appointed 5/3/56).

(4) COUNTY NURSING STAFF.

County Nursing Superintendent.

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Health Visitors.

MARGARET B. LOCKHART.

ELLEN JOHNSTONE.

MARY MORRISON.

District Nursing Sisters.

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CHRISTINA MACDONALD	Annan.
JANE N. BOYD	Canonbie.
CATHERINE P. C. BANNERMAN			Carrutherstown.
ELSIE B. WOOD	...	...	...	...	Dumfries Landward.
HELEN MACFARLANE	...	...	...	...	Dunscore.
MARTHA MOORE	...	...	...	...	Eskdale.
GEORGINA RANKIN	...	...	...	...	Eskdale.
SARAH R. YOUNG	...	...	...	...	Gloncairn.
MARGARET GRAY	(Resigned 15/3/56)	...	...	...	Hoddon.
MARGARET SCOTT	(Appointed 1/5/56)	...	...	...	Hoddon.
ANNIE MACDONALD	...	...	...	...	Kirkconnel.
ELLEN M'NEALL	...	...	...	...	Kirkmahoe.
CATHERINE C. QUINN	...	...	...	...	Lochnaben.
MARGARET M'KELVIE	...	...	...	...	Lockerbie.
MARY J. NUTTER	...	...	...	...	Lockerbie.
SARAH SCULLION	...	...	...	...	Eastriggs.
EMILY MURRAY	...	...	...	...	Gretna.
MARY PAUL	...	...	...	...	Middlobie.
MARY J. MACDONALD	...	...	...	...	Moffat.
MARY HARKNESS	...	...	...	...	Penpont.
RUTH YOUNG	...	...	...	...	Sanquhar.
MABEL JOHNSTONE	...	...	...	...	Thornhill.
JESSIE S. M'IVOR	Tinwald.
R. M'DOUGALL	Wanlockhead.

5) MILK AND DAIRIES STAFF.

Dairy Inspector.

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Milk Officers.

STELLA M. BEATON.

ELIZABETH M. HUTTON.

DONALDA MACFARLANE.

(6) LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

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JOHN JACKSON, Cert. Roy. San.				
Assoc. Scot.	Thornhill and Sanquhar Districts.
HARRY W. BRYSON	Annan and Gretna Districts.
JAMES SIMMONS	...	...	...	Lockerbie, Langholm and Moffat Districts.

(7) SANITARY INSPECTORS.

County Sanitary Inspector.

WILLIAM A. DUNLOP, M.R.San.A., A.M.Inst.P.C.

Senior Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

JOHN S. BERRY, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.

Sanitary Inspectors.

WILLIAM HYSLOP, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.
JAMES MAIR, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.
WILLIAM MOLLISON, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.
IAN TAIT, Cert. Roy. San. Assoc. Scot.

Meat Detention Officer.

ROBERT WEIR (Resigned 3/4/56).
ROBERT MARCHBANK.

County Rodent Officer.

W. G. M'GINILY (Appointed 22/10/56).

(8) OFFICE STAFF.

(a) *Health Department.*

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MAISIE BOGLE, Typist.
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Welfare Foods Distributor.

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(b) *Social Welfare Department.*

MARGARET M'KINNELL, Typist.

(c) *Laboratories.*

Mrs J. SCOTT, Typist.

To

The Department of Health for Scotland.

The County Council of Dumfries.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I submit herewith the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the County for year ended 31st December, 1956. There is included a Report on the School Health Service for the year ended 31st July, 1956, and Reports by the County and Burgh Sanitary Inspectors.

I should like to record my gratitude to members of the County Council for their continued interest and to the staff of the Health Department for their loyal service during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,


Your obedient Servant,

S. K. DRAINER,

County Medical Officer.

COUNTY BUILDINGS,

DUMFRIES.



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REPORT

VITAL STATISTICS

Population.

The Registrar-General estimated the mid-year population to be 60,533 which compares with 60,397 in 1955.

(a) County Landward	...	...	...	44,752
(b) Small Burghs—Annan	...	...	...	4,983
Sanquhar	...	...	...	2,518
Lochmaben	...	...	...	1,183
Lockerbie	...	...	...	2,665
Moffat	...	...	...	2,052
Langholm	...	...	...	2,380
Total	...	...	...	60,533

Marriages.

Five hundred and forty marriages were registered, giving a marriage rate of 8.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The corresponding figure for Scotland was 8.5.

Births.

The live births allocated to the county during 1956 numbered 995, giving a birth-rate of 16.4. The birth-rate for Scotland was 18.5.

	Total	Male	Female	Illegitimate
(a) County Landward	735	405	330	30
(b) Small Burghs :—				
Annan	110	65	45	5
Sanquhar	42	30	12	...
Lochmaben	23	10	13	...
Lockerbie	33	19	14	...
Moffat	27	13	14	4
Langholm	25	9	16	1
Total	995	551	444	40

The birth-rate of 16.4 is 0.1 lower than the figure recorded in 1954.

Illegitimate Births.

Illegitimate births amounted to 4 per cent. of the total number of births. The corresponding Scottish figure was 4.3.

Deaths.

There were 701 deaths (378 males, 323 females) during the year. The death-rate, adjusted for age and sex distribution, was 11.6. This rate is higher by 0.5 as compared with the previous year but lower than the Scottish rate of 12. for 1956.

The deaths were distributed in the various age groups as follows :—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	18
From 1-4 years	...	...	...	...	3
5-9 years	...	...	...	...	1
10-14 years	...	...	...	...	2
15-24 years	...	...	...	...	8
25-34 years	...	...	...	...	12
35-44 years	...	...	...	...	13
45-54 years	...	...	...	...	43
55-64 years	...	...	...	...	107
65-74 years	...	...	...	...	194
75-84 years	...	...	...	...	231
85 years and over	...	...	...	...	69

The commonest causes of death were :—

Diseases of the heart	...	...	...	...	236
Apoplexy	...	...	...	...	127
Cancer	...	...	...	...	111
Diseases of the respiratory system	...	...	...	...	44
Diseases of the digestive system	...	...	...	...	21
Road accidents	...	...	...	...	13
Accidents in the home	...	...	...	...	6

Deaths from Coronary disease.

The incidence of deaths certified as being due to diseases of the coronary arteries during the past ten years is shown below :—

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE
DEATHS

Year	MALE														FEMALE													
	All ages	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-55	56-60	61-65	66-70	71-75	76+	76	71-75	60-70	61-65	56-60	51-55	46-50	41-45	36-40	31-35	26-30	21-25	16-20	All ages
1946	32	...	...	...	1	1	3	2	6	...	6	4	4	5	5	8	4	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
1947	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	2	10	6	7	9	8	12	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
1948	44	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	2	4	5	10	7	12	7	4	3	4	3	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	24
1950	54	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	7	4	8	10	21	11	11	5	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
1951	66	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	3	9	10	13	8	14	15	5	7	7	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
1952	62	...	1	...	...	...	1	4	6	3	9	12	12	14	6	6	4	3	4	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	25
1953	58	...	...	1	...	2	1	3	11	4	5	12	9	10	9	4	3	4	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
1954	77	...	1	1	...	...	2	2	8	7	9	15	12	20	7	8	5	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
1955	58	1	...	...	...	1	3	10	9	9	7	4	6	8	11	4	8	1	5	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
1956	67	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	4	8	9	17	11	11	16	5	2	4	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	29

Infant Mortality.

There were 18 deaths of children under one year, giving an infant mortality rate of 18 per 1,000 live births. This is the lowest rate ever recorded in Dumfriesshire. The corresponding figure for Scotland was 28.6.

Of these deaths, 12 occurred during the first month of life, giving a neo-natal mortality rate of 11.

The certified causes of death and ages at death of the 18 children were as follows :—

Age at Death.	Cause of Death.
6 days	Acute enteritis.
5 weeks	Gastro enteritis.
3 weeks	Prematurity.
2 months	Pyrexia—convulsions.
1 hour	Died at birth.
1 hour	Asphyxia neonatorum.
2 weeks	Neonatal infection (pneumonia)
2 months	Congenital heart disease.
5 months	Status epilepticus.
2 days	Prematurity.
9 months	Status epilepticus (pneumonia).
6 weeks	Haemangio-endothelioma.
2 days	Spina bifida.
7 days	Broncho-pneumonia.
1 hour	Prematurity.
7 days	Myelo-meningocele hydrocephalus.
2 days	Prematurity.
9 months	Paroxysmal tachycardia.

The perinatal death-rate (still-births and deaths within the first month of life) was 26.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Four persons (2 males, 2 females) died of respiratory tuberculosis during the year. There were no deaths from non-respiratory forms of the disease.

The decennial averages since 1900 are as follows :—

1901–1910	...	...	...	...	2.76
1911–1920	...	...	...	...	1.38
1921–1930	...	...	...	...	0.99
1931–1940	...	...	...	...	0.59
1941–1950	...	...	...	...	0.47
1951	...	...	...	...	0.17
1952	...	...	...	...	0.10
1953	...	...	...	...	0.15
1954	...	...	...	...	0.05
1955	...	...	...	...	0.13
1956	...	...	...	...	0.07

The corresponding rate for Scotland in 1956 was 0.16.

Deaths from Infectious Diseases.

There were 6 deaths from infectious disease, giving a death-rate of 0.10. The causes of death were influenza (5) and meningitis (1).

Deaths from Cancer.

There were 111 deaths from cancer (61 males, 50 females) as compared with 128 in the previous year.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1947.

PART III.

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

(a) EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

As in the past, ante-natal care was given in domiciliary cases by the district nursing sisters under the general supervision of the family doctor. Such ante-natal care was afforded to 206 mothers, and 684 visits were paid to them by the district nursing sisters who subsequently attended the births as maternity nurses.

While the number of mothers attending the ante-natal clinics fell in 1956 as compared with the previous year, the number of visits increased. The numbers of attendances at the various clinics are shown in the following table :—

Clinic	ANTE-NATAL			POST-NATAL		
	First visits	Subsequent visits	Total	First visits	Subsequent visits	Total
Annan ...	176	700	876	116	20	136
Langholm ...	34	75	109	39	7	46
Kelloholm ...	150	443	598	90	26	116
Totals for 1956	360	1218	1583	245	53	298
Totals for 1955	303	992	1295	200	11	211

(b) CHILD WELFARE.

A total of 31,432 domiciliary visits were made to children under school age. In addition, 7,340 attendances were made at the child welfare centres throughout the County. No changes were made in the arrangements for these centres, but it is hoped to provide better premises at Annan within the next year.

The attendances at the various centres are shown in the following table :—

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

CLINIC			First visits	Subsequent visits	Total
Town Hall, Annan	...	...	122	1026	1146
Episcopal Hall, Gretna	...	...	52	572	624
Nelson Institute, Eastriggs	...	...	66	769	835
Thomas Hope Hospital, Langholm.	...	...	79	816	895
Masonic Hall, Lockerbie	...	...	73	925	1026
The Institute, Sanquhar	...	...	55	536	591
Shopping Centre, Kelloholm	...	...	328	1730	2058
Catherinefield School, Dumfries	...	...	40	245	285
Totals for 1956	...	...	815	6645	7460
Totals for 1955	...	...	862	6478	7340

It was not possible during the year to make arrangements for the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers, or for pre-school children.

(c) DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS.

Welfare foods are distributed from 28 points throughout the County. Three centres were closed during the year and in five instances distribution was transferred to other persons. The amounts of foods distributed were as follows :—

National dried milk	...	...	44,903 tins.
Cod liver oil	...	...	5,113 bottles.
Vitamin tablets	...	...	1,298 bottles.
Orange juice	...	...	24,268 bottles.

As in past years, much credit is due to the voluntary workers who, in all but three centres, undertook the distribution of welfare foods.

There has been a marked increase in the uptake of all welfare foods. As compared with the past year, the distribution of national dried milk was increased by 5,406 tins and orange juice by 3,156 bottles.

2. Domiciliary Midwifery.

Domiciliary midwifery continues to be practised by all the district nursing sisters though none was called upon during the year to take sole charge of a confinement.

The number of births occurring in the area was 348. Of these 243 took place at home and 105 in hospital or nursing home. The following table shows the nature of attendance at domiciliary confinements :—

	Cases dealt with under Section 23(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947			Other domiciliary cases	Total
	Doctor engaged and present at confinement	Doctor engaged and not present at confinement	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)		
Midwives employed by the Authority (including those engaged on a fee-per- case basis) 	220	23	...	...	243
Private practising midwives ... ...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	220	23	...	...	243

In terms of the Midwives' (Scotland) Act, 1915, the County Superintendent of Nurses acts as non-medical supervisor of midwives, responsible to the County Medical Officer. Official inspection of records, equipment and conduct of cases of each midwife was made during the year. No infringement of the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board was noted.

There were no cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14(1) of the Midwives' (Scotland) Act, 1951.

All the district nursing sisters are qualified to administer gas and air analgesia. During the year such analgesia was administered to 98 women in labour and analgesia by pethidine to 71 others. Three sets of apparatus for the administration of trilene were purchased during the year and arrangements have been completed for the district nurses to receive instruction in the use of this form of analgesia.

During the year three members of the nursing staff attended a refresher course for midwives and district nurses.

The proportion of institutional births increases slightly each year. Of the 995 births assigned to Dumfriesshire in 1956, 75.9 per cent. took place in hospital and 24.1 at home.

3. Health Visiting.

There was no alteration during the year in the arrangements for health visiting. It seems logical that in the rural areas health visiting should be undertaken by the district nursing sisters and that each nurse carrying out combined duties should, whenever possible, be suitably trained in health visiting work.

Home visits made by the health visitors are as follows :—

Expectant mothers :—

First visits	...	...	...	...	206
Total visits	...	...	...	...	684

Children under 1 year :—

First visits	...	...	...	...	1,181
Total visits	...	...	...	...	16,374

Children 1-5 years :—

First visits	...	...	...	...	3,368
Total visits	...	...	...	...	15,058

Patients over 65 years :—

First visits	...	...	...	...	811
Total visits	...	...	...	...	1,063

4. Home Nursing.

The details of home nursing visits are shown in the following table :—

	Number of cases attended by home nurses	Number of visits paid
Home nurses employed directly ...	3045	27510

There is no doubt that the nature of the district nursing sisters' work is changing. With the growing preference for institutional confinement the nursing staff require to devote less time to domiciliary midwifery. The amount of general nursing in the home, also, is declining gradually mainly because of new methods of treatment. As against this, there is an increasing demand for the nurses' services in caring for old people.

5. Vaccination and Immunisation.

The personal approach of the family health visitor, the general practitioner and members of the medical staff of the Health Department forms the main line of propaganda for vaccination and immunisation.

(a) VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

The numbers of vaccinations recorded were as shown in the following table :—

	Primary vaccination		Re-vaccination	
	Successful	No reaction	Successful	No reaction
Born in the year				
1956	386	12	1	...
Aged 1-5 years ...	265	1	8	2
Aged over 5 years	56	6	79	13

(b) IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

During the year 1,051 children were fully immunised and, in addition, 995 received maintenance inoculations. It was not found necessary to curtail immunisation for there was no prevalence of poliomyelitis during the year.

Year of Birth	Number of children immunised for the first time	Number of children receiving maintenance doses
1951 - 1956 ...	216	...
1950 and earlier ...	835	995

It is estimated that 98 per cent. of children of school age in Dumfriesshire have been immunised against diphtheria.

Of the 1,051 primary inoculations, 476 (45.3 per cent.) were carried out by the medical staff of the Health Department, and 575 (54.7 per cent.) by the family doctors. The family doctors also gave 17 per cent. of the maintenance inoculations.

(c) VACCINATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS.

All children fully immunised against diphtheria during the year also received whooping cough prophylactic and tetanus toxoid. Of 134 children notified during 1956 as suffering from whooping cough, 20 had been previously vaccinated against the disease.

(d) VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS.

The Department of Health for Scotland made poliomyelitis vaccine available to treat children aged 2-9 years. The number of children registered by their parents and guardians for vaccination was 5,697 (2,928 boys, 2,769 girls). The supply of vaccine was limited but 782 children (369 boys, 413 girls) received two inoculations and 59 (36 boys, 23 girls) received one inoculation.

(e) VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS.

The practice of offering B.C.G. vaccination to certain groups of the population was continued during the year. The particulars are shown in the following table :—

G R O U P	Tuberculin Tested		Negative Reactors		Vaccinated	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Nurses ... ..	...	1	...	1	...	1
Contacts	43	43	34	39	36	47
School leavers	322	337	289	313	289	313

6. Prevention, Care and After-care.

(a) TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases notified was rather more than in the previous year but included in this number were the cases found in the course of a community survey in Annandale. This intensive survey of a population of over 8,000 brought to notice ten new cases of respiratory tuberculosis. Yet another survey by mass miniature radiography was carried out amongst workers in the principal industries in the County. In the course of this survey 1,567 persons were examined, 123 were recalled to have large films taken and one person was found to suffer from tuberculosis in an active form.

	M.	F.	Total.
Number of cases notified as suffering from respiratory tuberculosis	24	13	37
Number of cases notified as suffering from non-respiratory tuberculosis	1	5	6
	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 18	<hr/> 43
Cases admitted to hospital	20	11	31
Number of deaths (respiratory)	2	2	4
Number of respiratory cases on register ...	190	162	352
Number of non-respiratory cases on register	19	36	55
Patients visited by Health Visitor ... ..	...	...	182
Visits made by Health Visitor ... ..	...	...	1126
Visits made by Health Visitor in connection with the Annandale Survey ... ..	...	...	1543

B.C.G. vaccination was offered to all children aged thirteen years. The particulars given below refer to children attending County schools :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Number tuberculin tested	322	337	659
Number vaccinated with B.C.G.	289	313	602

All children found to be positive reactors to the tuberculin test were referred for X-ray examination. Three were recalled for large films but no evidence of active disease was discovered.

7. COMMUNITY SURVEYS.

During the year a special X-ray survey unit, working from Lochmaben Sanatorium and financed by the Royal Victoria Hospital Tuberculosis Trust, carried out two community surveys in Dumfriesshire. The object was to undertake a complete census of the community selected and thereafter to X-ray as many members as possible on the assumption that if 95 per cent. of the community is X-rayed and treatment facilities are available to those requiring them, tuberculosis within the community can be eradicated.

ANNANDALE SURVEY.

The population in this survey was defined by private census and comprised 8,658 persons over the age of 5 years. In the survey area were eight rural parishes and the small burghs of Lockerbie and Lochmaben.

Of the population concerned, 95.13 per cent. were persuaded to have a chest X-ray examination.

The prevalence of clinically significant tuberculosis was low—4.9 per 1,000. The yield of previously unknown infective tuberculosis was also low—0.5 per 1,000. Of the 10 cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis discovered in the survey, 7 were middle-aged or elderly men, of whom 4 were infective.

CRICHTON ROYAL, DUMFRIES.

In the course of this survey, rather more than four-fifths of the total number of patients (1,238) were able to follow the normal mass radiography procedure. Some patients were X-rayed at the Institution's own department and a final percentage of 90 satisfactory examinations were achieved. Of the total staff of seven hundred, 98 per cent. submitted to X-ray examination.

In addition to X-ray examination each member of staff was tuberculin tested. The reading of the tests showed 15.5 per cent. to have negative reactions and, after a second Heaf test, those found still to be negative were offered B.C.G. vaccination.

The results are most interesting. No member of staff was found to suffer from active tuberculosis. Only two patients, both males in the 50-55 age group, were found to have active

disease and to require treatment. One female, also in the same age group, was found to be suffering from lung cancer.

The rate, therefore, for active tuberculosis was less than two per thousand, which approximates the findings amongst the general public. In previous surveys at mental hospitals the rates have usually been much in excess of the general public rate.

(b) EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS.

There have been no further developments in the ascertainment and care of epileptics and spastics.

(c) PREVENTION OF HOME ACCIDENTS.

Lectures and talks were given to Women's Rural Institutes throughout the County by members of the medical and nursing staffs. There is no Home Safety Committee in the area.

(d) CHIROPODY.

During the year a chiropody service was begun by the Dumfriesshire Branch of the British Red Cross Society. It is hoped to extend the service with financial contributions from the County Council.

(e) HEALTH EDUCATION.

A series of lectures to pupils attending County schools was given by the Medical Lecturer of the Scottish Council of Health Education.

8. Mental Health.

During the year, six persons were admitted to mental hospitals at the instance of the Authorised Officers. Statutory supervision was exercised on behalf of the Western Regional Hospital Board over one certified patient who had been placed under guardianship.

It was not possible to have any mental defective patients admitted to certified institutions during the year. Seven defectives are boarded out in Dumfriesshire and one is under guardianship outwith the County. Twenty-four mental defectives, whose ordinary residence is in Dumfriesshire, are presently cared for in certified institutions.

Two voluntary organisations undertake much useful mental health work locally.

The experiment at Hannahfield Hall, Crichton Royal, which was begun in 1951 to provide in-patient treatment for maladjusted, mentally defective children, has been fully justified. It has been possible in the case of many of the children so to adjust their social, educational or behavioural disabilities that they are able to return to their homes and benefit from attendance at school or occupation centre without heartbreak to parents and teachers. The very close liaison between the staffs of the Child Guidance Centre and Crichton Royal, so necessary for the success of such treatment, continues in a most satisfactory manner.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

1. Residential Accommodation.

The following table shows the particulars of persons afforded residential accommodation during the year :—

	Rowantree House			Notwen House			Benreay	
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.
Number of residents at 1/1/56 ...	17	18	...	11	13	...	5	10
Number of admissions during the year	12	9	4	6	13	7	...	1
Number of discharges during the year	11	10	...	9	18	7	...	...
Number of residents at 31/12/56 ...	18	17	4	8	8	...	5	11

Consideration was given to a project to replace Rowantree House by a new establishment to be built in the vicinity of Dumfries. Because of restriction on capital expenditure, however, this project had to be abandoned. Alterations at Benreay to provide more accommodation for resident staff will be undertaken during 1957.

2. Blind Persons.

During the year 11 new cases of blindness were certified. The total number of blind persons on the register at the end of the year was 85 (42 males, 43 females). These cases may be classified as follows :—

At school in a Blind Institution ...	...	2
Employed in Workshops for the Blind ...	...	2
Employed as "Home Workers" ...	...	4
Undergoing industrial training ...	...	1
Not available for employment, <i>i.e.</i> , house-		
wives, etc. ...	...	52
Not capable of work ...	...	24
		—
Total ...	...	85
		—

3. Deaf and Dumb Persons.

Along with neighbouring authorities, the Council contribute to the funds of a voluntary organisation that does useful work locally in promoting the welfare of deaf and dumb persons.

4. Other Handicapped Persons.

The Council was financially responsible for the maintenance of a severely crippled girl over school age at Anton House, Broughty Ferry.

5. General.

It was not necessary during the year to use compulsory powers of removal.

As in previous years, arrangements were made for the protection of the property of persons admitted to residential accommodation.

During the year, the burial of four persons was carried out at the instance of the County Council.

No new homes for old people were registered during the year.

MILK SUPPLIES.

1. Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914.

The total amount of milk produced in the County during the year was 22,329,410 gallons. Of this amount 99.30% was "Tuberculin Tested" milk; the percentage last year was 98.94%.

Thirty plans were examined in connection with the construction of new dairy premises and reconditioning of existing ones.

Sixteen entirely new dairy farms were registered and fifteen "Tuberculin Tested" dairies ceased milk production during the year. The total number of producing dairies in the County is now 851. This total is made up of 837 "Tuberculin Tested" dairies (two more than last year), eight ordinary and six certified dairies. The "Ordinary" dairies which amount to only 0.94% of the total dairies in the County, all comply with the requirements of the dairy bye-laws.

The use of mechanical coolers at producing dairies is becoming more popular and there are now 156 dairy farms where this type of cooler has been installed.

1,961 visits were made to dairy farms during the year, as follows :—

Routine	Structural	Milk (Spec. Des.) Orders	Scottish Milk Testing Scheme	Miscellaneous
697	330	745	44	145

The three creameries in the County operated satisfactorily during the year.

2. Retail Milk Samples.

Ninety-seven samples of retail milk were taken during the year and 17 (17%) of these proved unsatisfactory samples.

The total number of retailers in the County is 32, and 4 of these retailers were granted "Certified" licences during the year. Two "Certified" licences were given up, and there are now six retailers in the County holding "Certified" licences.

Sterility rinses were taken of milk bottles and plant in use at retail premises, and in most cases the results were very satisfactory.

3. Milk in Schools Scheme.

Three hundred and seven samples of school milk were taken and 72 (23%) were found to be unsatisfactory bacteriologically. Eight retailers were concerned with these unsatisfactory samples.

4. Scottish Milk Testing Scheme.

The number of notifications from creameries as to milk supplies failing tests under the scheme was 143. Last year the figure was 519.

The following table shows the total number of notifications in their various categories from each creamery receiving milk from Producers in the County :—

C R E A M E R Y				Weekly Tests			Platform Tests	Total
				2nd	3rd	4th		
Carnation Milk Factory	...			42	9	2	26	79
Lockerbie Creamery	...			12	4	...	19	35
Sanquhar Creamery	...	...		6	3	...	1	10
Cowhill Creamery	...	...		4	2	...	...	6
Murchie's Creamery	...	...		...	...	...	...	...
Edinburgh and Dumfriesshire Dairy Company	...			...	...	...	12	12
Other Creameries	...	...		...	...	...	1	1
Totals	...	...	...	64	18	2	59	143

5. Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1914.

The attention of a number of producers was drawn to the defective and unsatisfactory condition of lids on their milk churns used for the consignment of milk for sale.

6. Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) 1951-52.

Fifty-five producers' "Tuberculin Tested" licences were granted during the year. Of these, 13 were new farmers taking over farms where the previous producer had held a "Tuberculin Tested" licence, and 22 were merely changes in name of the licensed producer. Thus 20 entirely new "Tuberculin Tested" licences were issued. These were made up of 2 "Ordinary" dairies upgraded to "Tuberculin Tested", 2 "Certified" dairies reverting to "Tuberculin Tested" and 16 new dairies which, after complying with required conditions, went on to "Tuberculin Tested" milk production.

Five thousand and sixteen milk samples were taken during the year, of which 14 were qualifying samples from producers applying for licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders ; 5,002 were of "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

The number of unsatisfactory samples was 639 or 12.74% of the total number taken.

The number of farmers concerned with the unsatisfactory milk samples was 428, of which 186 had only one unsatisfactory sample. Four hundred and fourteen had no unsatisfactory samples. One thousand seven hundred and forty samples taken from 290 farms during the year, had bacterial counts of 30,000 per millilitre and under.

The number of samples which failed owing to the presence of coliform bacteria only was 429.

Sixty-four sterility rinses of dairy utensils were taken during the year. In many cases these rinses again proved useful in tracing the cause of unsatisfactory samples.

The following table shows the samples taken during each month and the samples which proved unsatisfactory.

Month			Samples taken	Samples unsatisfactory
January	...	...	481	42
February	...	...	440	37
March	...	...	394	42
April	...	...	443	51
May	...	...	436	48
June	...	...	428	80
July	...	...	416	115
August	...	...	357	54
September	...	...	370	59
October	...	...	433	49
November	...	...	480	38
December	...	...	338	24

Nineteen "Tuberculin Tested" producers were reported in connection with unsatisfactory samples and methods of production.

Each case was considered by the appropriate committee of the County Council and the licensee of one producer was suspended for one month on two occasions. Eighteen producers were warned that, in the event of further unsatisfactory milk samples being

obtained or other evidence of unsatisfactory methods of production, their licences would be suspended or revoked.

One retailer selling "Certified" milk was reported in connection with unsatisfactory samples. The "Certified" licence of this retailer was suspended for one month.

7. Biological Testing of Milk.

This testing is confined mainly to milk which is used for retail purposes, and for school milk. The milk is examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli, and all 57 samples examined during the year gave negative results.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY.

During the year a total of 2,055 samples were submitted for examination at the chemical laboratory. Details of the nature and sources of these are given in the following table :—

Table showing the Number and Nature of Samples analysed during the year 1956.

	Food and Drugs	Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	Milk	Water	River Waters and Effluents	Miscel- laneous	Total
Dumfries County Council	136	64	647	139	...	1	987
Kirkcudbright County Council ...	215	22	52	10	...	...	299
Wigtown County Council	56	7	267	29	...	...	359
Dumfries Burgh	32	3	38	1	...	...	74
Solway River Purification Board	—	—	—	—	316	2	318
Private and other Local Authorities	—	3	—	9	5	1	18
							2055

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Report for the year ended 31st July, 1956

1. List of Staff.

See beginning of this Report.

2. General Statistics.

Population of the County and Small Burghs	...	...	60,397
Population of the Burgh of Dumfries	...	...	26,320
Number of schools :—			
(a) Primary schools	} under the Education Authority		
(b) Secondary schools			88
(c) (i) Special schools	...	...	0
(ii) Special classes in ordinary schools	...	...	3
(d) In receipt of grant from Education Authority			1
(e) Nursery schools	...	...	2
(f) Occupation Centre	...	...	1
(g) Barony School (residential)	...	...	1
Number of children on the registers	...	...	14,909
Number of children in average attendance	...	...	13,584

3. Sanitary Conditions of Schools.

The following improvements have been carried out during the year :—

Tarmacadam has been laid on eleven playgrounds.

Five schools have had lighting improvements.

The heating system has been improved in one school, and a Romesse stove installed in one dining-room.

A new heating boiler was installed in one school.

Improved water-closet fittings have been installed in one school.

4. Organisation and Administration.

During the year, the arrangement made in 1947 with the Town Council of Dumfries for the part-time services of the Burgh medical and nursing staff and for the use of clinic premises at the Municipal Chambers was terminated. An administrative

scheme of this kind involving two authorities could scarcely be expected to operate in a satisfactory manner. Two school health visitors were appointed for full-time duty in Burgh schools and, as from September, 1955, the School Health Service in Dumfries was maintained wholly by County Council staff.

The year saw the introduction of the scheme for immunisation against poliomyelitis. Confined to certain selected groups of children born in the years 1947-1954, the scheme had a gratifying response in Dumfriesshire, the consent rate varying between 60% and 70% of those eligible.

Vaccination with B.C.G. as a preventive measure against tuberculosis was offered during the year, and here again the response of parents was most satisfactory. It is evident that B.C.G. vaccination will continue to be practised routinely in the schools.

5. Findings at Medical Inspection.

A total of 10,670 children were medically examined during the school year, as follows :—

Systematic examination of age groups	...	...	4,214
Other systematic examinations	...	...	189
Special cases seen at routine visits	...	...	253
Special cases seen at special visits	...	...	2,277
Re-inspections of children found to have defects at previous examinations	...	...	3,737

Attendance of parents.				1955-56.	1954-55.
Entrants	...	...	...	78.01%	79.36%
2nd age group	...	...	...	27.02%	19.38%
3rd age group	...	...	...	1.24%	1.12%
4th age group	...	...	...	—	—
Other systematic examinations	...	...	...	22.76%	11.23%

CLOTHING—unsatisfactory :—

Boys...	...	...	...	1 (0.05%)	1 (0.05%)
Girls	...	...	...	—	4 (0.20%)

FOOTGEAR—unsatisfactory :—

Boys...	...	...	...	1 (0.05%)	2 (0.10%)
Girls	...	...	...	—	—

UNCLEANLINESS :—

(a) Head (dirty) :—

Boys...	...	...	...	—	14 (0.70%)
Girls	...	...	...	2 (0.10%)	1 (0.50%)

Head (verminous) :—

Boys...	...	...	...	4 (0.18%)	5 (0.25%)
Girls	...	...	...	55 (2.73%)	37 (1.86%)

(b) Body (dirty) :—

Boys...	...	...	...	7 (0.32%)	5 (0.25%)
Girls	...	...	...	2 (0.10%)	2 (0.10%)

Body (verminous) :—

Boys...	...	...	...	—	—
Girls	...	...	...	—	—

There has been a slight increase in the total cases of the various types of uncleanness. Last year's total was 64; this year's 70.

1955-56.

1954-55.

SKIN:—

(a) Head :—

Ringworm	...	...	Boys	—	1 (0.05%)
			Girls	—	—
Impetigo	...	...	Boys	3 (0.13%)	4 (0.20%)
			Girls	3 (0.15%)	3 (0.15%)
Other diseases	...	...	Boys	10 (0.45%)	4 (0.20%)
			Girls	6 (0.30%)	4 (0.20%)

(b) Body :—

Ringworm	...	...	Boys	2 (0.09%)	—
			Girls	3 (0.15%)	1 (0.05%)
Impetigo	...	...	Boys	1 (0.05%)	3 (0.15%)
			Girls	5 (0.25%)	1 (0.05%)
Seabies	...	...	Boys	—	—
			Girls	—	1 (0.05%)
Other diseases	...	...	Boys	33 (1.49%)	32 (1.60%)
			Girls	37 (1.84%)	35 (1.76%)

As occurred last year, the figures for infectious conditions of the skin remain low and practically unaltered. Listed in "Other Diseases" is a variety of skin defects which have little significance.

NUTRITIONAL STATE :—

Slightly defective ...	Boys	125 (5.68%)	141 (7.03%)
	Girls	125 (6.21%)	168 (8.44%)
Bad ...	Boys	1 (0.05%)	—
	Girls	1 (0.05%)	—

These figures show little change from those of the previous year. On average, 6,454 children (47.5%) took school meals each day and 11,150 (82%) took school milk.

MOUTH AND TEETH :—

Unhealthy ...	Boys	30 (1.36%)	6 (0.30%)
	Girls	29 (1.44%)	8 (0.40%)

The increase in unsatisfactory conditions of mouth and teeth is probably not a real one, but most likely stems from the fact that last year there existed some confusion as to what should be recorded as a defect in this category.

NASO-PHARYNX.

(a) Nose :—

Obstruction requiring observation :—

Boys	53 (2.41%)	47 (2.33%)
Girls	35 (1.74%)	25 (1.26%)

Obstruction requiring operation :—

Boys	38 (1.73%)	24 (1.20%)
Girls	21 (1.04%)	22 (1.10%)

Other conditions ...	Boys	11 (0.5%)	—
	Girls	3 (0.15%)	2 (0.10%)

(b) Throat :—

Tonsils requiring observation :—

Boys	106 (4.81%)	79 (3.94%)
Girls	67 (3.33%)	98 (4.92%)

Tonsils requiring operation :—

Boys	37 (1.68%)	34 (1.70%)
Girls	29 (1.44%)	37 (1.86%)

(c) Glands :—

Requiring observation :—

Boys	17 (0.77%)	5 (0.25%)
Girls	9 (0.45%)	8 (0.40%)

Requiring operation :—

Boys	8 (0.36%)	—
Girls	—	2 (0.10%)

There has been a slight overall increase in the numbers of cases noted under "Naso-pharynx."

EYES.

(a) External Diseases :—

Blepharitis	Boys	6 (0.27%)	14 (0.70%)
	Girls	19 (0.94%)	16 (0.80%)
Conjunctivitis	Boys	—	5 (0.25%)
	Girls	3 (0.15%)	5 (0.25%)
Corneal opacities	Boys	2 (0.09%)	—
	Girls	—	2 (0.10%)
Strabismus	Boys	27 (1.23%)	39 (1.95%)
	Girls	33 (1.64%)	60 (3.01%)
Other diseases	Boys	14 (0.64%)	13 (0.65%)
	Girls	4 (0.2%)	8 (0.40%)

(b) Visual Acuity :—

Fair	Boys	469 (21.45%)	423 (20.81%)
	Girls	458 (22.42%)	443 (22.69%)
Bad	Boys	40 (1.83%)	66 (3.25%)
	Girls	38 (1.86%)	51 (2.61%)
Recommended for refraction :—			
	Boys	87 (3.98%)	91 (4.48%)
	Girls	111 (5.43%)	95 (4.86%)

There appears to be little change in the figures for the two years under comparison.

EARS.

(a) Diseases :—

Otorrhoea	Boys	5 (0.23%)	2 (0.10%)
	Girls	3 (0.15%)	5 (0.25%)
Other diseases	Boys	7 (0.32%)	—
	Girls	4 (0.20%)	2 (0.10%)

(b) Defective hearing :—

Grade I.	Boys	2 (0.09%)	2 (0.10%)
	Girls	1 (0.05%)	4 (0.20%)
Grade IIa.	Boys	1 (0.05%)	—
	Girls	1 (0.05%)	1 (0.05%)
Grade IIb.	Boys	—	—
	Girls	—	—
Grade III.	Boys	—	—
	Girls	1 (0.05%)	—

There is little statistical change in the diseases and defects of this group.

The Department of Health is anxious that assessment of deafness or impaired hearing should be carried out at as early an age as possible. In many educational areas routine audiometric surveys are carried out of all school children aged nine years, and of each child suspected to be educationally sub-normal. There are not enough children in attendance at Dumfriesshire schools to merit the appointment of a full-time audiometrician, but consideration might be given to the part-time employment of an audiometrician employed by some neighbouring authority.

SPEECH.

Defective articulation	Boys	5 (0.23%)	7 (0.35%)
	Girls	4 (0.20%)	4 (0.20%)
Stammering	Boys	3 (0.13%)	3 (0.15%)
	Girls	2 (0.10%)	2 (0.10%)

Since the date of the last annual report, the Education Committee have appointed a full-time speech therapist.

MENTAL AND NERVOUS CONDITIONS.

During the past year, a full assessment was carried out by the School Medical Officer of eighteen individual children who were considered to require special educational treatment.

The work of the Child Guidance Centre during the year is summarised in the following table:—

	Number of cases			Discharged		Treatment continued		Waiting attention	
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL ...	127	70	197	85	40	32	19	10	11
SPEECH ...	94	41	135	14	8	48	16	32	17
PSYCHIATRIC ...	67	35	102	28	8	39	27	...	...
TOTALS ...	288	146	434	127	56	119	62	42	28

1955-56.

1954-55.

CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.

(a) Organic heart disease :—

(1) Congenital	...	Boys	2 (0.09%)	2 (0.10%)
			Girls 2 (0.10%)	9 (0.45%)
(2) Acquired	...	Boys	2 (0.09%)	5 (0.25%)
			Girls 9 (0.45%)	5 (0.25%)

(b) Functional conditions :—

Boys	36 (1.63%)	28 (1.40%)
Girls	29 (1.44%)	23 (1.16%)

(c) Anaemia	...	...	Boys	1 (0.05%)	4 (0.20%)
				Girls —	4 (0.20%)

“Functional Conditions” are usually temporary and of little significance.

LUNGS.

(a) Chronic bronchitis :—

Boys	5 (0.23%)	3 (0.15%)
Girls	2 (0.10%)	3 (0.15%)

b) Suspected tuberculosis :—

Boys	—	5 (0.25%)
Girls	—	2 (0.10%)

(c) Other diseases	...	Boys	19 (0.86%)	19 (0.95%)
			Girls 17 (0.84%)	7 (0.35%)

DEFORMITIES.

Congenital	...	...	Boys	8 (0.36%)	11 (0.55%)
				Girls 6 (0.30%)	11 (0.55%)

Acquired (infantile paralysis) :—

Boys	3 (0.13%)	4 (0.20%)
Girls	4 (0.20%)	3 (0.15%)

Acquired (probably rickets) :—

Boys	3 (0.13%)	6 (0.30%)
Girls	4 (0.20%)	3 (0.15%)

Acquired (other causes) :—

Boys	7 (0.32%)	10 (0.50%)
Girls	3 (0.15%)	4 (0.20%)

INFECTIOUS DISEASE :—

Boys	—	—
Girls	3 (0.15%)	4 (0.20%)

OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS :—

Boys	36 (1.63%)	41 (2.04%)
Girls	31 (1.54%)	33 (1.66%)

These figures include a wide variety of conditions not classified under the headings already listed.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DEFECTS.

From Table III. it will be noted that 69.01% of children were classified as “free from defects.” The comparable figure for the previous year was 69.22%, so that, in general, the health of the school population remains high.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Table 1.

Total number of children examined at :—

A. Systematic examinations :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Entrants	755	716	1471
Second age group	738	672	1410
Third age group	646	565	1211
Fourth age group	63	59	122
	2202	2012	4214

Other systematic examinations (i.e., children missed at age group but subsequently examined systematically) :—

Boys.	Girls.	Total.
100	89	189

B. Other examinations :—

(1) Special cases seen at routine visits	253
Special cases seen at special visits	184
Number of special visits	269
(2) Re-inspections by school medical officers :—	
For defects	3,737
For uncleanness	260

The number of individual children inspected at systematic examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment :—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	109
Second age group	...	...	...	...	...	87
Third age group	...	...	...	...	...	28
Fourth age group	...	...	...	...	...	5
						<hr/> 229
						<hr/>
Total number notified for uncleanliness	...	...				16

Visits by Health Visitors and District Nursing Sisters.

Visits to schools	...	...	...	...	1,216
Number of children seen	...	...	...	...	14,909
Number of re-inspections	...	...	...	...	80,534
Number of home visits paid	...	...	...	...	1,805

Table II.—SYSTEMATIC

RETURN OF NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUAL

NATURE OF DEFECT.	Total examined at all ages 4214	ENTRANTS			
		Boys 755		Girls 716	
		No.	%	No.	%
1. CLOTHING UNSATISFACTORY ... ..	...	1	0.13	...	...
2. FOOTGEAR UNSATISFACTORY ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
3. UNCLEANLINESS :—					
(a) Head—Dirty ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Nits or Vermin ... ..	...	...	...	21	2.93
(b) Body—Dirty ... ..	...	2	0.26	...	...
Verminous ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
4. SKIN :—					
(a) Head—Ringworm ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Impetigo ... ..	...	1	0.13	2	0.28
Other Diseases ... ..	...	6	0.79	3	0.42
(b) Body—Ringworm ... ..	...	...	...	3	0.42
Impetigo ... ..	...	1	0.13	1	0.14
Scabies ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases ... ..	...	17	2.15	16	2.23
5. NUTRITIONAL STATE :—					
Slightly defective ... ..	...	51	6.76	47	6.56
Bad ... ..	...	1	0.13	...	...
6. MOUTH AND TEETH :—					
Unhealthy ... ..	...	...	...	3	0.42
7. NASO-PHARYNX :—					
(a) Nose—					
i. Obstruction requiring observation ... ..	...	31	4.12	26	3.63
ii. Obstruction (probably adenoids) requiring operation ... ..	...	35	4.61	19	2.65
iii. Other conditions ... ..	...	8	1.06	2	0.28
(b) Throat—					
i. Tonsils requiring observation ... ..	...	84	11.13	64	8.94
ii. Tonsils requiring operation ... ..	...	24	3.18	27	3.77
(c) Glands—					
i. Requiring observation ... ..	...	7	0.93	...	...
ii. Requiring operation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
8. EYES :—					
(a) External Diseases—					
Blepharitis ... ..	...	2	0.26	4	0.56
Conjunctivitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Corneal opacities ... ..	...	1	0.13	...	...
Strabismus ... ..	...	20	2.65	25	3.49
Other Diseases ... ..	...	2	0.26	...	...
(b) Visual acuity—	4239				
Fair ... ..	...	312	42.22	294	39.36
Bad ... ..	...	21	2.84	23	3.08
Recommended for refraction ... ..	...	41	5.55	64	8.57

EXAMINATIONS.

CHILDREN IN EACH AGE-GROUP SUFFERING FROM PARTICULAR DEFECTS:—

SECOND AGE GROUP				THIRD AGE GROUP				FOURTH AGE GROUP				ALL AGES			
Boys 738		Girls 672		Boys 646		Girls 565		Boys 63		Girls 59		Boys 2002		Girls 2012	
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	...	...
1	0.14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.35	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.1
3	0.41	20	2.97	1	0.15	14	2.47	...	...	...	...	4	0.18	55	2.73
3	0.41	...	...	2	0.31	2	0.35	...	...	...	...	7	0.32	2	0.1
...
...
1	0.14	1	0.15	1	0.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	0.13	3	0.15
...	...	1	0.15	4	0.62	...	...	...	...	2	3.39	10	0.45	6	0.3
1	0.14	...	...	1	0.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	3	0.15
...	...	1	0.15	...	...	3	0.53	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	5	0.25
...
12	1.63	11	1.64	4	0.62	10	1.77	...	...	...	...	33	1.49	37	1.84
...
61	8.27	41	6.1	13	2.01	37	6.55	...	...	...	...	125	5.68	125	6.21
...	...	1	0.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	1	0.05
...
10	1.36	14	2.08	20	3.09	12	2.12	...	...	...	...	30	1.36	29	1.44
...
15	2.03	5	0.71	7	1.08	4	0.71	...	...	...	...	53	2.41	35	1.74
3	0.41	2	0.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	1.73	21	1.04
3	0.41	...	...	...	...	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	11	0.5	3	0.15
...
14	2.03	20	2.97	8	1.22	13	2.3	...	...	...	...	106	4.81	67	3.33
6	0.81	2	0.3	7	1.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	1.68	29	1.44
...
5	0.68	5	0.71	5	0.77	4	0.71	...	...	...	...	17	0.77	9	0.45
4	0.54	...	...	4	0.62	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0.36	...	...
...
3	0.41	9	1.32	1	0.15	6	1.06	...	...	...	...	6	0.27	19	0.94
...	...	3	0.45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	0.15
...	...	...	...	1	0.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	...	...
5	0.68	3	0.45	2	0.31	4	0.71	...	...	1	1.69	27	1.23	33	1.64
11	1.49	3	0.45	1	0.15	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	14	0.64	4	0.2
...
108	14.63	103	15.33	45	6.97	57	10.09	4	6.35	4	6.78	469	21.45	458	22.42
10	1.36	11	1.64	9	1.39	4	0.71	...	...	...	...	40	1.83	38	1.86
30	4.07	28	4.17	14	2.17	16	2.83	2	3.17	3	5.08	87	3.98	111	5.43

Table II.—SYSTEMATIC

RETURN OF NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUAL

NATURE OF DEFECT.	Total examined at all ages 4214	ENTRANTS			
		Boys 755		Girls 716	
		No.	%	No.	%
9. EARS :—	4214				
(a) Diseases—					
Otorrhoea ... ..	...	2	0.26	1	0.14
Other Diseases ... ..	...	3	0.4	3	0.42
(b) Defective hearing—					
Grade I. ... ..	...	1	0.13	...	...
Grade II.a ... ..	...	1	0.13	...	...
Grade II.b ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Grade III. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
10. SPEECH :—					
Defective articulation... ..	...	3	0.4	4	0.56
Stammering ... ..	...	1	0.13	...	...
11. MENTAL AND NERVOUS CONDITIONS :—					
Backward ... ..	...	1	0.13	1	0.14
Dull ... ..	...	...	...	1	0.14
Mentally defective (educable) ... ..	...	1	0.13	...	...
Mentally defective (ineducable) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Highly nervous or unstable ... ..	...	1	0.13	...	...
Difficult in behaviour ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
12. CIRCULATORY SYSTEM :—					
(a) Organic heart disease—					
i. Congenital ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
ii. Acquired ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Functional conditions ... ..	...	13	1.72	5	0.7
(c) Anaemia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
13. LUNGS :—					
Chronic bronchitis ... ..	...	4	0.53	1	0.14
Suspected tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases ... ..	...	11	1.46	12	1.68
14. DEFORMITIES :—					
(a) Congenital ... ..	...	5	0.66	3	0.42
(b) Acquired (infantile paralysis) ... ..	...	2	0.26	1	0.14
(c) Acquired (probably rickets) ... ..	...	1	0.13	2	0.28
(d) Acquired (other causes) ... ..	...	2	0.26	2	0.28
(e) Postural defects ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
15. INFECTIOUS DISEASE ... ..	...	...	...	2	0.28
16. OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS ... ..	...	14	1.85	14	1.82

EXAMINATIONS (continued).

CHILDREN IN EACH AGE GROUP SUFFERING FROM PARTICULAR DEFECTS:—

SECOND AGE GROUP				THIRD AGE GROUP				FOURTH AGE GROUP				ALL AGES			
Boys 738		Girls 672		Boys 646		Girls 565		Boys 63		Girls 59		Boys 2002		Girls 2012	
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	0.14	2	0.3	2	0.31	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	0.23	3	0.15
4	0.54	1	0.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	0.32	4	0.2
1	0.14	...	...	...	...	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	1	0.05
...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	1	0.05
...
...	...	1	0.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05
2	0.27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	0.23	4	0.2
...	...	1	0.15	2	0.31	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	3	0.13	2	0.1
1	0.14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	1	0.05
5	0.68	...	...	2	0.31	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	7	0.32	2	0.1
6	0.81	3	0.45	4	0.62	4	0.71	1	1.59	...	...	12	0.54	7	0.35
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	...	...
...
2	0.27	2	0.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	2	0.1
1	0.14	4	0.59	1	0.15	5	0.88	...	...	...	...	2	0.09	9	0.45
15	2.03	13	1.93	8	1.22	8	1.42	...	...	3	5.08	36	1.63	29	1.44
...	...	...	...	1	0.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.05	...	...
1	0.14	1	0.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	0.23	2	0.1
...
4	0.54	4	0.59	4	0.62	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	19	0.86	17	0.84
3	0.41	1	0.15	...	...	2	0.35	...	...	...	...	8	0.36	6	0.3
1	0.14	2	0.3	...	...	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	3	0.13	4	0.2
...	...	1	0.15	2	0.31	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	3	0.13	4	0.2
3	0.41	1	0.15	2	0.31	...	...	...	...	1	1.69	7	0.32	3	0.15
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	0.15
18	2.44	16	2.38	4	0.62	1	0.18	...	...	...	...	36	1.63	31	1.54

Table III.—SYSTEMATIC

CLASSIFICATION.	ENTRANTS.		SECOND AGE GROUP.	
	Number of Children.	Per-centage.	Number of Children.	Per-centage.
I. Children free from defects	936	63.63	963	68.29
II. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from—				
(a) Defective vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses or	2	0.14	78	5.53
(b) Conditions of mouth and teeth requiring treatment	11	0.75	28	1.99
(c) Both (a) and (b) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Total	13	0.88	106	7.53
III. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II.) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks	262	17.81	97	6.88
IV. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defects less remediable than defects specified in II. or III. distinguishing cases—				
(a) Where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect, full correction) is considered possible	246	16.71	211	14.96
(b) Where improvement only is considered possible, <i>e.g.</i> without complete restoration of function ...	14	0.95	33	1.63
Total	260	17.61	244	17.3
Total number of children examined	1471	100%	1410	100%

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

THIRD AGE GROUP.		FOURTH AGE GROUP.		TOTAL.	
Number of Children.	Per- centage.	Number of Children.	Per- centage.	Number of Children.	Per- centage.
903	74.65	106	86.88	2908	69.01
64	5.28	8	6.56	152	3.61
31	2.55	...	...	70	1.66
4	0.33	...	...	4	0.09
99	8.17	8	6.56	226	5.36
60	4.95	3	2.46	422	10.01
130	10.73	4	3.28	591	14.02
19	1.57	1	0.82	67	1.35
149	12.3	5	4.1	658	15.62
1211	100%	122	100%	4214	100%

Table IV.

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE IN THE AREA.

Disability	At ordinary schools	At special schools or classes	Athospitals or other institutions	At no school or institution	TOTAL
1. Blind ... ..	...	1	...	1*	2
2. Partially sighted—					
(a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition	5	...	...	...	5
(b) Other conditions of the eye, e.g., cataract, ulceration, etc. which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school	31	...	...	...	31
3. Deaf—					
Grade I.	20	...	...	...	20
Grade II.a	17	...	...	...	17
Grade II.b	1	...	...	...	1
Grade III. ... ..	...	5	...	...	5
4. Defective speech—					
(a) Defects of articulation requiring special educational measures	28	...	...	...	28
(b) Stammering requiring special educational measures	9	...	...	...	9
5. Mentally defective (children between 5 and 16 years)—					
(a) Educable (I.Q. approx. 50–70 “educationally sub-normal”)	26°	80†	...	...	106
(b) Ineducable (I.Q. generally less than 50) ... ..	...	...	2	24‡	36
6. Epilepsy—					
(a) Mild and occasional	19	...	...	1	20
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school) ... ..	...	...	...	1	1
7. Physically defective (children between 5 and 16 years)—					
(a) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands)	5	...	...	...	5
(b) General orthopaedic conditions	90	2	4	6	102
(c) Organic heart disease	44	...	...	1	45
(d) Other causes of ill-health	29	...	1	...	30
8. Multiple defects—					
Bronchiectasis and thrombocytopenic purpura ... ..	..	...	1	...	1

* Awaiting decision.

° Three awaiting transfer to Special Class; others mainly in Sanquhar-Kirkcubbin area.

† Six are Stewartry children.

‡ Six are Dumfries Burgh children.

Table IV. (continued).

Disability	At ordinary schools	At special schools or classes	At hospitals or other institutions	At no school or institution	TOTAL
Ineducable mental defective and hemiplegia	1	1
Bronchiectasis and partially sighted	1	...	..	..	1
Educable mental defective and epilepsy...	1	...	1
Educable mental defective and spastic	1	...	1
Ineducable mental defective and epilepsy...	1	1
Deaf and Spastic	1	...	1
Deaf and educable mental defective	1	...	...	1
Deaf, speech defect and educable mental defective	1	...	...	1

Table V.

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS AT SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION.

BOYS

	AGE GROUPS			
	Entrants	2nd	3rd	4th
Number measured... ..	514	427	498	52
Average age (in years) ...	$5\frac{3}{4}$	$9\frac{6}{12}$	$13\frac{5}{12}$	$16\frac{6}{12}$
Average height (in inches)	43.0	52.4	60.0	67.9
Number weighed	620	460	497	52
Average age (in years) ...	$5\frac{3}{4}$	$9\frac{6}{12}$	$13\frac{5}{12}$	$16\frac{6}{12}$
Average weight (in lbs.) ...	42.9	65.4	95.6	140.5

GIRLS

	AGE GROUPS			
	Entrants	2nd	3rd	4th
Number measured... ..	503	370	462	48
Average age (in years) ...	$5\frac{3}{4}$	$9\frac{6}{12}$	$13\frac{5}{12}$	$16\frac{6}{12}$
Average height (in inches)	42.7	52.1	60.7	63.7
Number weighed	587	407	463	48
Average age (in years) ...	$5\frac{3}{4}$	$9\frac{6}{12}$	$13\frac{5}{12}$	$16\frac{6}{12}$
Average weight (in lbs.) ...	41.4	64.0	97.7	126.8

6. Medical Treatment.

A. MINOR AILMENTS :—

1. Cuts, bruises, sprains and minor injuries, etc. ...	1,971
2. Diseases of the ear	148
3. Diseases of the eye, excluding defective vision ...	96
4. Diseases of the skin :—	
Ringworm (scalp)	1
Ringworm (body)	9
Scabies	3
Impetigo	806
Other diseases	1,015
Pediculosis	1,414

B. DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT :—

1. Number of retinoscopies performed by school medical officers	448
2. Number of children referred to consulting ophthalmologist	114
3. Number of spectacles provided through the school health department	377
Squints are treated by provision of glasses, by total or intermittent occlusion, and by operation.	

C. NOSE AND THROAT (operative treatment) 154

D. ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS :—

Figures not available.

7. School Dental Service.

REPORT BY CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER

STAFF.

There were no changes in the dental staff during the year. The staff consists of a chief dental officer, three dental officers and four dental attendants.

PREMISES AND EQUIPMENT.

The new mobile dental clinic was in use continuously from October at sixteen primary schools, while the older mobile clinic was used during the whole school year at four junior secondary and two primary schools which had no accommodation available for dental treatment. Where a room was available in the schools, semi-permanent or portable equipment was used.

The clinic at County Buildings was in use all the year.

INSPECTION.

9,185 children were inspected in the schools by the dental officers who found 7,112 (77.4%) requiring treatment, and of these 4,110 (57.8%) accepted treatment.

TREATMENT.

3,497 children were treated, with 6,280 attendances for treatment, averaging 1.9 visits each.

4,725 permanent teeth were filled and 636 were extracted.

1,137 temporary teeth were filled and 2,766 extracted.

Orthodontic appliances were fitted in 27 cases and partial dentures in 23 cases.

There were 1,393 other operations, scalings, dressings and orthodontic adjustments.

SESSIONS.

A total of 123 half-days were devoted to inspection. The average number of children inspected each day was 149.

Treatment sessions numbered 1,176 and, on average, 10.6 patients were treated each day.

327 sessions were spent on clerical work, emergency treatment sessions and non-routine work.

SCOPE OF TREATMENT.

Complete treatment was given to all children treated—an average of 1.67 fillings, plus .97 extractions per patient.

On average, each dental officer did 9.96 fillings, plus 5.8 extractions, plus 2.4 other operations every day.

				Systematic examina- tions	Special cases	Total
1.	Number of children inspected					
	Age 3 years	...	...	2	...	2
	4	"	...	47	6	53
	5	"	...	975	3	978
	6	"	...	918	6	924
	7	"	...	954	11	965
	8	"	...	944	16	960
	9	"	...	792	16	808
	10	"	...	751	11	762
	11	"	...	747	5	752
	12	"	...	872	10	882
	13	"	...	858	10	868
	14	"	...	701	6	707
	15	"	...	292	8	300
	16	"	...	138	2	140
	17	"	...	76	3	79
	18	"	...	4	1	5
	Total	...	...	9071	114	9185
2.	Requiring treatment			6998	114	7112
2a.	Accepting treatment			3996	114	4110
3.	Number of children treated			3383	114	3497
4.	Attendances made for treat- ment			6068	212	6280
5.	Fillings :—					
	(a)	Permanent teeth	...	4668	57	4725
	(b)	Temporary teeth	...	1124	13	1137
6.	Extractions :—					
	(a)	Permanent teeth	...	603	33	636
	(b)	Temporary teeth	...	2701	65	2766
7.	Orthodontic appliances			27	...	27
8.	Partial dentures			23	...	23
9.	Other operations :—					
	(a)	Permanent teeth	...	1167	140	1307
	(b)	Temporary teeth	...	84	2	86
10.	Half-days devoted to :—					
	Inspection	...	...	123	}	1626
	Treatment	...	...	1176		
	Office work	...	...	304		
	Administration	...	...	23		
11.	Number of children refusing treatment			...	...	2774
12.	Number of forms not returned			...	...	228
13.	Number of children treated under private arrange- ment			...	...	685

8. Special Schools and Classes.

There are no special schools in the County. Handicapped children are provided for as follows :—

(a) PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Three children are at East Park Home, Glasgow ; one girl has received education at the Trefoil School, Edinburgh ; one girl was admitted after Easter to Westerlea School for Spastics, Edinburgh, and several children are known to be undergoing hospital or convalescent home treatment.

Other handicapped children attend the ordinary school if at all possible and transport is arranged.

For those unable to travel to school home tuition is provided.

(b) BLIND CHILDREN.

One boy was in residence during the year at the Royal Blind School, Edinburgh.

Partially sighted children attend the ordinary schools and are given a favourable position in the classroom where this is indicated.

(c) DEAF CHILDREN.

Two children have received training at Donaldson's Hospital, Edinburgh, during the year. Two children are at St. Vincent's School, Glasgow, and one child is at the Glasgow School for the Deaf.

Children who are hard of hearing are educated in the ordinary schools and are given a favourable position in the classroom.

(d) MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

There are three special classes for children with an intelligence quotient approximately 50-70. The roll at June, 1956, was as follows :—

Dumfries Class (three teachers)	...	...	47
Annan Class	...	...	17
Lockerbie Class	...	...	16
			—
Total	...	...	80
			—

An occupation centre is in operation in Dumfries and has a roll of 9.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT

COUNTY HEALTH OFFICE,

COUNTY BUILDINGS,

DUMFRIES.

To

*The Department of Health for Scotland and the
County Council of the County of Dumfries.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the work carried out by this Department during the year 1956.

In doing so, I wish to record my thanks and appreciation to the members of the County Council for their interest, and to the members of my staff for their collaboration and support.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. A. DUNLOP,

County Sanitary Inspector.

GENERAL.

With the advent of new legislation placed on the Statute Book during the year, the duties of the Sanitary Inspector were considerably increased and the accent on his work directed more towards environmental sanitation although housing still demanded a major proportion of his time.

Of the new legislation introduced my Department was concerned mainly with the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, the Clean Air Act and the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act. Other additional duties placed on my staff during the year included food and drugs sampling and the administration of the Shops Act, Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, Labelling of Food Order and Cinematograph Acts.

HOUSING.

There still appears to be a considerable demand for new houses in certain areas of the County and the following tables give some indication of the progress made in this direction during the year :—

Houses erected by the Local Authority for						
“General Needs”	...	...	...	...	...	109
Houses erected by the Local Authority for						
Employees	...	...	...	...	...	1
Houses erected by Government Departments						40
Houses erected by Private Persons	...	...	...	...	...	50
<hr/>						
Total	...	...	...	...	...	200
<hr/>						

The distribution of these houses is shown in the following tables :—

HOUSES ERECTED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY (GENERAL NEEDS).

Type of House	Situation	No. of Houses of				Total
		2 apt.	3 apt.	4 apt.	5 apt.	
Permanent	Ecclefechan ...	2	...	5	...	7
Traditional Weir Brick	Closeburn ...	...	10	12	4	26
	Collin... ..	...	...	7	...	7
	Ecclefechan ...	2	13	6	...	21
	Locharbriggs ...	...	...	12	...	12
	Springfield ...	8	18	6	4	36
<hr/>		<hr/>				
Total		12	41	48	8	109

HOUSES ERECTED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY (FOR EMPLOYEES).

Type of House	Situation	No. of Houses of				Total
		2 apt.	3 apt.	4 apt.	5 apt.	
Permanent Traditional	Eskdalemuir... ..	...	...	1	...	1

HOUSES ERECTED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

Department	Type of House	Situation (Parish)	No. of Houses of				Total
			2 apt.	3 apt.	4 apt.	5 apt.	
Department of Agriculture	Permanent Traditional	Gretna ...	...	...	1	1	2
Forestry Commission	Permanent Traditional	Kirkmahoe	...	1	7	...	8
Atomic Energy Authority	Wooden	Annan ...	...	...	30	...	30
		Total ...	...	1	38	1	40

HOUSES ERECTED BY PRIVATE PERSONS WITH ASSISTANCE UNDER THE HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACTS, 1950 AND 1952.

Type of House	Situation (Parish)	No. of Houses of					Total
		2 apt.	3 apt.	4 apt.	5 apt.	6 apt.	
Permanent Traditional	Closeburn ...	...	...	...	...	1	1
	Dalton ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Dumfries ...	...	...	2	...	...	2
	Dunscore ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Durisdour ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Gretna ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Holywood ...	...	...	2	...	...	2
	Kirkmahoe ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Kirkpatrick-Fleming ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Lochnaben ...	...	2	1	...	...	3
	Middlebie ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Mouswald ...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	St. Mungo ...	...	...	6	...	...	6
	Tynron ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Total ...	...	3	19	...	1	23

HOUSES ERECTED WITH ASSISTANCE UNDER THE HILL FARM- ING ACT AND LIVESTOCK REARING ACT.

Type of House	Situation (Parish)	No. of Houses of					Total
		2 apt.	3 apt.	4 apt.	5 apt.	6 or more apt.	
Permanent	Eskdalemuir...	...	...	3	...	...	3
Traditional	Middlebie ...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	Sanquhar ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Tundergarth...	...	...	...	...	1	1
	Westerkirk ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Total ...	...	...	5	1	1	7

HOUSES ERECTED BY PRIVATE PERSONS (WITHOUT ASSIST- ANCE).

Type of House	Situation (Parish)	No. of Houses of					Total
		2 apt.	3 apt.	4 apt.	5 apt.	6 or more apt.	
Permanent	Caerlaverock	...	1	1	...	...	2
Traditional	Canonbie ...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	Closeburn ...	...	...	...	...	1	1
	Dumfries ...	...	...	7	1	1	9
	Dryfesdale ...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	Gretna ...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	Lochmaben ...	...	1	...	...	1	2
	Mouswald ...	...	...	...	1	...	1
	Tinwald ...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Wooden	Kirkmahoe ...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	Total ...	...	5	8	4	3	20

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACTS, 1950 AND 1952.

(a) NEW HOUSES FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

Proposals for the erection of fifteen new houses for agricultural workers were approved and grants promised by the Council in terms of Section 3 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1952, during the year.

(b) IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING DWELLINGS.

Proposals for the improvement of 139 existing dwelling-houses were approved and grants promised during 1956. Improvement works at 136 dwellings were completed and qualified for payment of grant during the year. Under Section 105 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, ten dwellings were also provided by the conversion of former hospital buildings by the County Council

Although fewer dwellings were improved or converted during the year with the aid of grant, it is evident that the need for the grant is still there and it is hoped that the grant will still be available for many years to come.

HOUSING (REPAIRS AND RENT) (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1954.

Only one application for a Certificate of disrepair under the above Act was received. This was granted.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

The figures given below show some aspects of the work carried out under the Housing Acts with particular reference to unsatisfactory dwellings :—

1. Number of houses surveyed	...	...	...	44
2. Number of houses re-surveyed	...	...	...	67
3. Number of Section 9 Reports on Unfit Houses				74
4. Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...		29
5. Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	...	19
6. Number of undertakings accepted	...	...		18
7. Number of houses demolished and sites cleared				10

All the unfit houses included in the return submitted to the Secretary of State in 1955, were revisited during the year and reports submitted on any found vacant with a view to securing their demolition or closure. The owners of occupied unfit houses were also notified of the condition of their properties and asked to co-operate by notifying this Department as they became vacant. As a result of this approach, a number of such notifications were received and the necessary statutory action taken. In this way, the use of these houses for human habitation was discontinued without the necessity of providing alternative accommodation for the outgoing tenants.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Although no modern byelaws are as yet available, 41 inspections of caravans were made during the year; 25 of these inspections concerned vehicles owned by travelling showmen, who continue to be the best type of caravan-dweller.

SEASONAL WORKERS.

Seasonal workers are employed in two farms in the County. Ten visits were made to these premises before and during their period of occupation and steps taken to ensure that adequate accommodation and sanitary facilities were provided.

PLANS.

The number of plans lodged for approvals was 488, made up as follows :—

Nature of Proposed Work.	Number.
New Business Premises (excluding Shops and Factories)	2
Alterations to Business Premises (excluding Shops and Factories)	2
New Factories	2
Alterations to existing Factories	13
Alterations to existing Shops	5
New Shops	8
Alterations to Farm Buildings (excluding Dairy Premises)	2
New Farm Buildings (excluding Dairy Premises)	8
Alterations and additions to Dairy Premises	31
New Private Garages	50
New Permanent Houses (Private Enterprise)	46
New Temporary Houses (Private Enterprise)	3
Alterations to existing Dwelling-houses	250
New Halls and Public Buildings	5
Alterations to Halls and Public Buildings	7
Conversion of Premises to Dwelling-houses	8
New Pigsties, Kennels, Sheds, Poultry Houses, Stores, etc.	27
Others	19
Total	488

A considerable number of the plans submitted did not comply with the building byelaws, but in practically all cases adjustments were made with the promoters or architects and approval recommended with a minimum of delay.

In addition to the above all plans in respect of Council projects, including housing and schools, were forwarded to this Department for comment and adjustment.

PROVISION OF SANITARY FACILITIES IN EXISTING HOUSES.

The undernoted table details the improved sanitary facilities provided for 165 houses. In most cases where a full range of sanitary fittings was provided the work was carried out with the aid of grant ; in others the full installation was usually restricted by the limited financial resources of the promoter.

Number of houses provided with full range of modern fittings	...	...	...	...	...	92
Number of houses provided with W.Cs. and sinks only						17
Number of houses provided with W.Cs. only	...					24
Number of houses provided with sinks only	...					7
Number of houses provided with bath and or W.H.B.						25
<hr/>						
Total number of houses provided with improved sanitary facilities	165
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There is still an appreciable number of structurally sound dwellings in the County which could be improved considerably and made more habitable by the provision of an inside water supply to a sink and a W.C. Since it appears that there will always be a demand by old folks and others for houses such as these, it may be necessary, in the not so distant future, to approach the owners of the properties concerned in an effort to provide these essential amenities.

WATER SUPPLIES.

One hundred and sixty-two samples of water were procured from public and private water supplies and submitted for chemical analyses and bacteriological examination during the year : 125 of these samples were taken from Local Authority supplies. Of the remaining 37 samples, 22 were taken from

private water supplies and from proposed new sources of supply for private purposes. The remaining 15 samples were taken on receipt of complaints from varying sources, all of which were dealt with satisfactorily.

Eighty-five applications for permission to connect to Council mains were received and reported on ; in all cases permission was granted.

Several of the private water supplies sampled were found to be unsatisfactory and advice was given to ensure that a more wholesome supply was made available. It was also necessary on several occasions to require the installation of small household filters prior to the use of the water for domestic purposes.

In one instance an estate agent was advised that a certain type of filter, of his own design, would not function properly. He was only convinced of this when samples of water taken before and after filtration revealed on analysis that the filter polluted, rather than purified, the water passing through it.

DRAINAGE.

The supervision and testing of all new and improved plumbing and drainage installations entailed the application of 1,028 tests to this type of work.

Thirty-three drainage plans were prepared for guidance of architects and contractors. Eleven applications for permission to connect to the Council sewers were also reported on.

A complete drainage lay-out was also provided for the U.K.A.E.A. building programme at Newington consisting of 120 houses and 42 garages.

Where the final drainage disposal of any scheme was by means of a septic tank and the effluent constituted a new or improved discharge notification of the proposal was sent to the Solway River Purification Board. The number of such notifications made during the year was 43.

The nuisance conditions at Gretna Green arising from the discharge of the effluent from septic tanks into overworked sumps still continued to give rise to complaints and it is hoped that it will be possible to provide a drainage scheme for that area in the near future.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

The total number of factories on the Register at the end of the year was 120 mechanical and 6 non-mechanical, with 32 other premises in which Section 7 of the principal Act is enforced by the Local Authority. The following is a list of trades or businesses carried on in the factories in this County :—

List of Factories :—

MECHANICAL.

Aerated Waters	...	1	Golf Balls	...	...	...	1
Artificial Manure	...	1	Grass Drying & Grinding	...	...	...	1
Bakers	...	...	8	Ham Curing	...	...	1
Blacksmith	...	...	9	Iron Foundry	...	...	1
Boilers	...	...	1	Joiner	...	...	15
Boot Repairs	...	...	2	Laundry	...	...	4
Brass Foundry	...	...	1	Loco. Repairs	...	...	1
Bricks	...	...	4	Meal	...	...	2
Cattle Food...	...	...	4	Meat Mincing	...	...	4
Cheese	...	...	1	Motor Vehicle Repairs	...	...	12
Chipboard	...	...	1	Penta-Erythritol	...	...	1
Concrete Slabs	...	...	1	Plumber	...	...	1
Cooked Meats	...	...	1	Poultry Grit (Seashells)	...	...	1
Cordite	...	...	1	Quarrymasters	...	...	1
Cycle Repairs	...	...	1	Road Plant Repairs	...	...	1
Drain Pipes...	...	...	1	Rubber Goods	...	...	1
Dressmaking	...	...	1	Sausage	...	...	3
Dry Cleaning	...	...	1	Sawmill	...	...	26
Egg Grading	...	...	3	Stone Dressing	...	...	1
Egg Packing	...	...	2	Stone Sawing	...	...	1
Elect. Repairs	...	...	1	Sulphuric Acid	...	...	1
Elect. Sub-Station	...	...	1	Tallow Melting	...	...	2
Fertilisers	...	...	2	Tar Macadam	...	...	1
Firewood	...	...	1	Tin Baling	...	...	1
Formalin	...	...	1	Tractor Repairs	...	...	2
Fowl Plucking	...	...	1	Wooden Ladders	...	...	1
General Engineers	...	...	1				

NON-MECHANICAL.

Blacksmith	...	...	1	Plumber	...	...	...	1
Joiner	...	...	...	2	Tailoring	...	...	2

Plans were approved for the construction of 2 new factories and in respect of alterations to 13 existing factories.

During the year 83 factory visits were made and verbal intimation given where defects were found. These defects were remedied without recourse to more formal action.

As required by Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937, all factories employing more than 20 persons must be furnished with a certificate as to means of escape in case of fire. Four such factories were surveyed and plans prepared in connection with this certificate. In view of the work involved, however, and the alterations necessary to the factories concerned, no certificates were issued during the year. It is hoped that all factories to which the section applies will comply with the requirements of the Act and be issued with certificates during 1957.

The dwelling-houses occupied by four outworkers were inspected and found to be satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION.

In the County (excluding the Burgh of Dumfries) the number of animals slaughtered during the year was 291,829 : of these, 2,954 were cattle, 228,065 were sheep, 25,403 were pigs and 35,407 were calves.

The following tables show the various classes of animals slaughtered and the number of carcasses wholly or partially condemned on account of disease or injury. Separate tables give the reasons for the condemnation.

PUBLIC SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Thornhill.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	627	8	12	3,863	1,707
Sheep ...	6,966	27	4	1,078	503
Pigs ...	208	2	...	270	87
Calves ...	10,903	12	...	378	34
Totals ...	18,704	49	16	5,589	2,331

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATIONS

Condemnations	Class of Animal			
	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Tuberculosis :— Whole carcase condemned ... ..	...	...	1	...
Actinomycosis :— Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	...	...	...
Septicaemia (Fevered Carcases) :— Whole carcases condemned	6	6	1	6
All other diseases :— Whole carcases condemned	1	21	...	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	97	100	2	1
Total number of diseased animals slaughtered	107	127	4	13

Annan.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	679	1	2	750	720
Sheep ...	5,417	10	1	412	261
Pigs ...	868	5	...	741	36
Calves ...	9,270	2	...	106	81
Totals ...	16,234	18	3	2,009	1,098

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATIONS

Condemnations	Class of Animal			
	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Cysticercosis :— Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	...	...	...
*Carcases subjected to treatment by refrig- eration and subsequently passed	4	...	...	...
Septicaemia (Fevered Carcases) :— Whole carcases condemned ... ..	...	6	1	1
All other diseases :— Whole carcases condemned Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1 55	4 ...	4 11	1 ...
Total of diseased animals slaughtered as shown above excluding the figures at * ...	60	10	16	2

Lockerbie.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	1,539	6	13	3,420	3,371
Sheep ...	108,598	48	51	1,880	519
Pigs ...	477	2	2	241	22
Calves ...	14,253	21	3	866	171
Totals ...	124,867	77	69	6,407	4,083

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATIONS.

Condemnations	Class of Animal			
	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Tuberculosis :— Whole carcases condemned Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2 6	... ...	... ...	... 1
Septicaemia (Fevered Carcases) :— Whole carcases condemned	2	12	1	8
All other diseases :— Whole carcases condemned Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5 4	36 51	1 2	12 2
Total number of diseased animals slaughtered	19	99	4	23

Thornhill Bacon Factory.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Pigs ...	23,781	18	29	2,963	6,862

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATIONS

Condemnations	Class of Animal			
	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Tuberculosis :—				
Whole carcasses condemned	1	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	229	...
Septicaemia (Fevored Carcasses) :—				
Whole carcasses condemned	8	...
All other diseases :—				
Whole carcasses condemned	9	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,363	...
Total number of diseased animals slaughtered	1,610	...

Racks.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Shoep ...	57,037	16	...	667	2,543
Pigs ...	1	...	...	...	...
Calves	263	2	...	77	21
Totals ...	57,301	18	...	744	2,564

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATIONS

Condemnations	Class of Animal			
	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Septicaemia (Fevered Carcases) :—				
Whole carcases condemned	12	...	2
All other diseases :—				
Whole carcases condemned	4	...	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	809	...	...
Total number of diseased animals slaughtered	...	825	...	2

Dornock.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Sheep ...	49,538	6	11	324	922
Calves ...	718	4	...	127	40
Totals ...	50,256	10	11	451	962

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATIONS

Condemnations	Class of Animal			
	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Septicaemia (Fevered Carcases) :—				
Whole carcases condemned	5	...	2
All other diseases :—				
Whole carcases condemned	2	...	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	563	...	...
Total number of diseased animals slaughtered	...	570	...	3

Langholm.

Class of Animal	Number of Animals			Weight in lbs. Condemned Meat	Weight in lbs. Condemned Offal
	Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	Partially Condemned		
Cattle ...	109	...	1	76	114
Sheep ...	509	5	2	223	71
Pigs ...	68	...	2	19	15
Totals ...	686	5	5	318	200

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATIONS

Condemnations	Class of Animal			
	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Sopticaemia (Fevered Carcasses) :—				
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	...	3	...	...
All other diseases :—				
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	...	2	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	9	26	2	...
Total number of diseased animals slaughtered	9	31	2	...

Summarising the aforementioned tables it will be noted that 36,591 lbs. meat and offal were condemned. This comprised 18,491 lbs. meat and 18,100 lbs. offal and involved 3,536 animals.

Early in the year the Meat Detention officer resigned from his post to take up another appointment. Since then the same meat inspection service has been carried out by Sanitary Inspectors, qualified for this work, who pay daily visits to Thornhill and Annan Public Abattoirs and to the private slaughterhouses at Racks, Dornock, Langholm and Thornhill when required. The Superintendent at Lockerbie slaughterhouse carries out the meat detention work there.

UN SOUND FOOD.

In the course of routine inspection, or on request, the food-stuffs as shown on the following table were examined in wholesale

and retail premises in the Landward Area of the County, and seized with the consent of the owner. This table also includes food seized in the Burghs of Sanquhar, Annan, Moffat, Lockerbie and Langholm as from the commencement of the Food & Drugs Act, 1956, on 1st August, 1956 :—

Description	Reason for Seizure	Weight	
		lbs.	ozs.
Canned Meat and Tongues ...	Decomposition	864	6
.. Pork and Ham	802	5
.. Fruit and Fruit Juices	168	9½
.. Peas	7	6
.. Beans	8	15½
.. Spaghetti	1	...
.. Soups	45	...
.. Evaporated Milk	19	5½
.. Sausages	4
.. Fish	4	12¼
.. Morfat Whipping	11	5½
.. Mutton	60	...
.. Mushroom	4
.. Shrimps	7½
.. Chicken	3	12
.. Jams	4	...
.. Vegetables	9	6
Bottled Sauces	1	5
Tomato Paste	10	...
Ulster Fry	13	...
Calf Carcases	105	...
Fore-quarters Beef	285	...
Hind-quarters Beef	Bruising	148	...
Flank Meat	Decomposition	150	...
Ewe Carcase	32	...
Total ...		2,755	7¼

The total weight of all foodstuffs condemned, as unfit for human consumption, during 1956 was 17 tons 11 cwts. 2 st. 6 lbs.

The number of visits made in connection with the inspection of meat and other foodstuffs was 1,231.

MEAT STORES.

No certificate in respect of storage accommodation in terms of Article 15(1) of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland) 1932 was granted by the Local Authority during 1956.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Slaughterhouses.—There are four slaughterhouses in the landward area of the County. One is owned by the local authority and is available to all who require it, two are used for the slaughter of sheep and calves for the export market and the other is concerned with the slaughter of pigs for a bacon factory. These premises, when visited, were found to be maintained in a satisfactory state of cleanliness.

Other Offensive Trades.—At the end of 1956 there were four firms carrying on one or more of the undernoted businesses defined in the Public Health Act (Scotland) 1897, as "offensive trades."

Blood Boilers	...	...	1	Knackers	...	...	1
Bone Boilers	...	...	1	Tripe Cleaners	...	...	1
Tallow Melters	...	...	3	Manure Manufacturers			1
Skin and Hide Factors	...	...	1				—
			Total	...	...	...	9
							—

During the year routine and pre-licence inspections of the premises were carried out.

One complaint was received of an offensive smell from the Dundas Chemical Co. The complaint originated within Dumfries Burgh where children in one of the schools complained of being sickened. On investigation it was found that a technical breakdown in the processing plant was the major cause of the complaint. This was expeditiously remedied and no further complaint was received.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.

The conditions and practices relating to the slaughter of animals in the slaughterhouses in the landward area of the County were investigated with special reference to the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Scotland) Regulation, 1955, which came into force on 1st July, 1956. All were found to comply with the requirements of the regulations with the exception of the private slaughterhouse at Dornock where it was noted that the lairage was without a suitable and sufficient water supply for the animals confined there. This omission was rectified by the owners.

INSECT INFESTATIONS.

Visits were made to accommodation occupied by persons selected for the tenancy of Council houses with a view to precluding the transference of infested furniture and furnishings. Local Authority houses being relet for a second or subsequent time were also examined. In all, 332 such inspections were carried out. In instances where the selected tenants resided outwith this County the necessary inspections of their housing conditions were made by the Sanitary Inspectors of the areas in which these persons were resident. This continues to be a valuable service, as no complaint of infestation or re-infestation has yet been received from tenants of Council houses, since the service was inaugurated.

As a result of the aforementioned visits and following complaints, 20 houses were treated for insect infestations. These infestations were mainly by fleas, Pharaoh's Ants, cockroaches, wasps, silver-fish and slaters, each insect being identified and the appropriate treatment carried out. In certain cases it was found necessary to extend the area of treatment up to a distance of 50 yards before complete eradication resulted.

FLY REPRESSION.

It was noted, during visits to various food premises throughout the County, that the owners of several food shops had installed a patent electrically-heated unit which emitted an insecticidal mist. This unit appears to be very effective in dealing with flies, etc., which frequent such premises.

DIRTY HOUSES.

One complaint was received concerning a dirty house. This house was visited on two occasions and conditions improved to such an extent that further visits were found to be unnecessary. A further two visits were paid to a persistent offender in this category but although an improvement was noticed after the visits these people readily fall into their own ways in a very short time.

None of the cases merited more formal action than routine visiting, and it is felt that perhaps such cases could be better dealt with by visitation from the Welfare Department.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The following report for the year under review as submitted to the Department of Agriculture for Scotland indicates the work carried out under the above Act :—

MEASURES TAKEN FOR THE DISCOVERY, PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF RATS AND MICE.

Discovery.

District Sanitary Inspectors report infestations found or complained of during normal routine duties. Inspections of premises are also carried out by the full-time operator during the course of his normal control duties.

Prevention and Control.

Householders, farmers, etc., are encouraged to seek the advice of the Local Authority. Publicity as to the services available is given at various food exhibitions, etc.

Infestations discovered or reported are controlled by poison baiting or/and gassing. Reinfestations are minimised by the rat-proofing of premises, the distribution of token baits, and periodic revisits by the operator.

MEASURES TAKEN REGARDING PROPERTIES SPECIALLY LIABLE TO INFESTATION.

Refuse tips, etc., receive regular visits and any reinfestations dealt with immediately. Token baits are always left at such premises.

ACTION (IF ANY) TAKEN UNDER THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (APPLICATION TO SHIPPING) ORDER, 1951.

The Harbour-master at Annan has undertaken to give notification of all ships calling there. Arrangements have also been made for the issue of rodent control certificates and any treatment of ships which may be necessary.

GENERAL.

The control of the operator passed from the Engineer's Department to the Sanitary Inspector's Department on 1st May, 1956. Since then the scope of his work has been widened and a service is now available to all the Small Burghs in the County.

During the year all the Sanitary Inspectors received a much appreciated course of instruction on rodent control from the Officers of the Pest Control Section of the Department of Agriculture. A separate course of instruction was also given to the operator.

The poison most used in this area is Warfarin and several experiments have been carried out in an effort to reduce the cost of the baiting medium. As a result of these experiments, it was found that broken biscuits of the coarse variety when ground down to a grade similar to that of the oatmeal normally used proved very attractive to rats and mice and resulted in a reduction in expenditure of about 50% on this item.

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Autho- rity Prop- erties	Dwell- ing Houses	Busi- ness or Indust- rial Pre- mises	Agric- ultural Prop- erties	
1. Number of Properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1956 :—					
(a) As a result of notification ...	6	13	10	5	34
(b) Otherwise... ..	18	...	9	8	35
Total	24	13	19	13	69
2. Number of above properties found to be infested by rats or mice ...	23	13	15	8	59
3. Number of above infested properties satisfactorily cleared :—					
(a) By the Local Authority ...	13	13	13	5	44
(b) Otherwise... ..	...	...	2	3	5
Total	13	13	15	8	49

COMPLAINTS.

In the normal course of inspection and following notification, 113 complaints were dealt with during the year.

The following table shows the nature of the complaint and the progress made in having these abated.

Complaint	Number	
	Reported	Abated
(a) Choked and defective drains and defective sanitary conveniences	14	14
(b) Inadequate and unsatisfactory water supplies	9	9
(c) Structural and other defects, including damp	46	12
(d) Overcrowding	5	2
(e) Offensive smells	8	6
(f) Accumulation of Refuse	6	6
(g) Infestation by Pests	19	19
(h) Pollution of Streams and Ditches ...	3	2
(i) Dirty Houses	1	1
(j) Others	2	2
Totals	113	73

In eleven instances formal intimations, under Section 19 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, were sent to authors of nuisances. In only one case was it necessary to serve a statutory notice.

THE ICE CREAM (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS.

The following summary shows the number of registrations granted, cancelled, etc., in 1956 :—

	Premises	Vehicles
Registrations in force at 31st December, 1955	42	15
Registrations granted during 1956	2	4
Registrations cancelled during 1956	1	2
Registrations discontinued during 1956 ...	2	—
Registrations in force at 31st December, 1956	41	17

Of the 41 registered premises, 13 are manufacturing premises, one is registered for the manufacture of complete cold mix, while the remaining 27 are registered in respect of storage and or sale of ice cream.

One hundred and twenty-eight visits were made to ice cream premises during the year by way of routine inspection or in connection with structural alterations or the installation of new apparatus.

Sixty-five samples of ice cream were procured for bacteriological examination during the year: 59 of these proved satisfactory and the remaining six unsatisfactory—two on account of the presence of coliform organisms and high bacterial count, three because of high bacterial count only and one because of the presence of coliform organisms only. In the case of unsatisfactory bacteriological analyses, in order to detect and eliminate faults in manufacture, storage, sterilisation of equipment, transport and handling, inspections are made of premises, equipment, stores, etc.

Fourteen test samples of ice cream were procured for the purposes of the Food & Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956, *i.e.*, for chemical analyses. This number of samples represented one sample per manufacturer of ice cream in the County (including the small burghs). Two of these were found to be “not genuine” on analysis whereupon the manufacturers in question were warned that their product was not in accord with the food standard required by the Act. Both manufacturers undertook to procure, from their trade organisation or from the suppliers of the ice cream ingredients, recipes which guaranteed the food standard of the product.

On 15th September, 1956, the administration of the Food & Drugs Act, Fertiliser & Feeding Stuffs Act and Labelling of Food Order was transferred from the Weights & Measures Inspector to this Department. The following part of this Report relating to these statutes deals only with the period from that date to the end of the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The undernoted table shows the nature and number of articles purchased or taken for analyses :—

Article	Number procured		Number adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Butter (New Zealand) ...	1	—	—	—
Coffee & Chicory Essence ...	—	1	—	—
Tea	—	1	—	—
Ice Cream	—	14	—	2
Sweet Milk	24	2	3	1
Sugar	—	1	—	—
Standard Saccharin Tablets	—	1	—	—
Liquid Egg (frozen)	—	2	—	—
Mince	4	11	4	1
Sausage (link)	1	—	—	—
Sausage (sliced)	1	—	—	—
Cider	—	1	—	—
Gin	1	—	—	—
Rum	1	—	—	—
Whisky	7	1	2	—
Totals	40	35	9	4

The adulterated formal samples were dealt with as follows :—

Article.	Date purchased.	Action taken.
Mince	26th September, 1956	Reported to Procurator-Fiscal. Fined £5.
Mince	1st October, 1956	Warning letter sent.
Milk	19th October, 1956	Warning letter sent.
Milk	19th October, 1956	Warning letter sent.
Mince	29th October, 1956	Reported to Procurator-Fiscal. Fined £10.
Mince	29th October, 1956	Warning letter sent.
Milk	26th November, 1956	Warning letter sent.

Warnings were also given to two publicans who were found to be selling whisky which, although complying with the legal standard of 65° proof, was less than the standard of 70° proof stated on the bottle.

LABELLING OF FOOD ORDER.

Several inspections of foodstuffs were made under this Order, but no contraventions were found.

FERTILISERS & FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

During the period under review the following test samples were taken :—

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Main crop Potato Fertiliser | 3. Bone Meal |
| 2. Grain and Turnip Fertiliser | 4. Vegerite plus Aldrin. |

All samples were found on analyses to conform with the Statutory Statement.

No samples were taken at the request of a purchaser.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Only one contravention of the above Act was noted. This referred to the exhibition and sale of television sets outwith the prescribed hours of closing and was rectified when the requirements of the Act were brought to the notice of the shopkeeper.

During the year 19 inspections and 93 visits were made to various shops throughout the County.

FOOD HYGIENE.

At the beginning of the year "Clean Food" exhibits supplied by the Department of Health were displayed for one week in each of the Burghs of Annan, Lockerbie and Langholm.

When the exhibits were in the various Burghs competitions for senior schoolgirls were held in conjunction with the Rectors of the various schools. This innovation met with considerable success which was reflected in the high standards achieved and the considerable interest shown by all concerned. Almost 200 pupils took part in the competition and in each case, the Local Merchants' Association or Chamber of Commerce agreed to provide prizes for award to the most successful pupils; these awards were made during school assembly by the Rector. Due to the number of pupils involved in the competition at Lockerbie and the prominence of the site of the exhibition, it was deemed advisable to cancel the competition in the interests of Road Safety.

In view of the success of this venture, it was decided to form an exhibition for use in the smaller communities within the County. This has not yet been completed but should be available for display at the time when it will have the greatest value, *i.e.*, when the new regulations make their appearance.

Several of the food premises visited during the year were found to be unsatisfactory. In each case advice or a warning was given—mostly with the desired effect.

In one instance a complaint was received that a loaf of bread contained a foreign body. The “foreign body” was found to be a lead pencil—sliced with the bread. The loaf was made in Glasgow and the complaint was submitted to the Food Inspector there for action by his Department.

CINEMAS.

Nineteen visits were made to the three cinemas in the landward area of the County during the year. Most of these visits were in connection with the Cinematograph (Safety) (Scotland) Regulations, 1955, which came into operation on 1st January, 1956, and the issue of licences under the main Act.

In order to comply with the requirements of the new Regulations it was necessary for the licence-holders of the three cinemas to carry out major works involving new or improved safety lighting, improved exit facilities, etc. The close liaison which was maintained between this Department and the cinema owners ensured that all the necessary work was carried out with a minimum of delay and expenditure.

As required by the Regulations, certificates as to the condition of the ceilings and electrical installations were submitted for the three cinemas.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Fortunately, few trades or businesses in the landward area of the County give rise to serious smoke nuisances. The present position with regard to the main offenders is as follows:—

Gretna Laundry.

Coal-fired boilers are now only occasionally used—electricity is generated only when grid supply fails.

Cochran & Co., Annan.

The boilers have now all been re-sited. No smoke nuisance was noted during the year.

I.C.I. Factory, Powfoot.

Several complaints of smoke and grit were received from the owner of an adjacent house. Observations were made of the offending chimneys and the matter taken up with the management. As a result, grit arrestors were fitted on the chimneys and consultants called in. I now understand that it is intended to replace the defective boilers or discontinue their use as soon as it is practicable to do so.

Weyroc Factory, Annan.

Complaints of smoke nuisance from this factory were found to be caused mainly by careless and inefficient stoking of the boilers. Advice and instruction given by the management considerably lessened this nuisance, but occasional careless stoking still gives rise to the issue of black smoke.

DUST NUISANCE.

The operation of the new chipboard factory at Annan gave rise to a considerable number of complaints of dust blowing into adjoining fields and houses.

Readings taken from a series of glass slides coated with a film of vaseline and laid on the ground at intervals of 25 yards down the prevailing wind from the factory indicated that, in a strong wind (Beaufort 8), woodchips were deposited in decreasing amounts over a distance up to 250 yards.

The factory was visited by Dr Birse, Chief Alkali Inspector for the Department of Health, who submitted a report indicating the main points of dust and chip emission. As a result of this report, which was followed up by visits from members of my staff, additional dust extractors were installed and the dust nuisance considerably lessened. Experiments are still being carried out at the factory and it is hoped that the provision of new cyclones will also improve conditions there.

SMALL BURGHS.

BURGH OF ANNAN.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 110 (65 males, 45 females), of which 5 were illegitimate.

During the year 91 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 60 (34 males, 26 females). The chief causes of death were : Heart Disease, 17 ; Cancer, 10 ; Apoplexy, 10. One child died during the first year of life.

Infectious Disease.—Eight notifications only of infectious disease were received — 6 of Scarlet Fever and one each of Pneumonia and Respiratory Tuberculosis.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

The following report has been prepared from information supplied by Mr Ian Gibson, Sanitary Inspector of the Burgh of Annan. Mr Gibson's predecessor, Mr Rodger, held office during the whole year under review and his untimely death early in 1957 occasioned much sorrow :—

Water Supply.—Throughout the year a supply of pure, wholesome water was maintained in the Burgh. Samples of the supply were examined regularly and found to be satisfactory.

The water consupt from all sources was as follows :—

	Gallons.
Middlebie Reservoir	70,506,000
Dumfries County Supplementary Supply ...	977,120
Total	71,483,120
Trade Supplies	15,957,780
Nett Domestic Total	55,525,340
Average Daily Consumpt per house	94.5
Average Daily Consumpt per person	30.4

Drainage.—The sewage system, in general, functioned satisfactorily during the year.

Offensive Trades.—The six shrimp-peeling factories constitute the trades under this heading. All were found to be kept in a clean condition.

The skin works mentioned in earlier reports closed down during the early part of the year.

Housing.—Details of the houses owned or factored by the Town Council as at 31st December, 1956, are as follows :—

Pre-war Houses :—

1919	...	...	...	...	24
1924 (96 less 15 sold)	...	...	...	...	81
1930	...	...	...	...	78
1935	...	...	...	...	21
1938	...	...	...	...	23—227
Uniseco Houses	...	...	...	...	45
Scottish Special Housing Association					
(traditional)	...	...	...	...	40—85

Post-war Houses. :—

Swedish Timber	...	...	...	20
Cruden	...	...	...	20
Weir "No-fires"	...	...	...	60
Traditional	...	...	...	178
Weir Brick	...	...	...	126
Weir Timber	...	...	...	30—434

Fifty-two traditional houses were completed during the year.

Reconditioned Houses	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	748

Houses under construction	...	...	57
Houses being reconditioned	...	...	9—66

Old houses owned by Town Council :—

In Annan	...	...	...	25
Outwith Annan	...	...	...	4—29

Private Houses :—

During 1956, 3 bungalows were built privately and, in addition, 5 houses were improved under Section 111 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950.

Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954 :—

In accordance with Section 1 of this Act, details are given below of the position at 31st December, 1956, as estimated over a period of five years :—

PART 1.

Paragraph 1	Sub-paragraph (a)	Occupied	71	
		Unoccupied	10—	81
	Sub-paragraph (b)	Occupied	30	
		Unoccupied	3—	33
	Sub-paragraph (d)	Occupied	249	
		Unoccupied	3	
		Under reconstruction	9—	261
				—
				375
				—

The remaining 461 privately-owned houses in the Burgh were found to be fit for human habitation, bringing the all-round total of houses in Annan to 1,609.

Slaughterhouse.—Several works of reconstruction were undertaken during the year. Information as to meat inspection is contained in the Report of the County Sanitary Inspector.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.—Household refuse is collected twice weekly and refuse from the main shopping area each day. Disposal is by controlled tipping at Corsehill Quarry.

Household refuse 1324 loads

Special refuse 11 loads

Waste paper 157 loads

The waste paper amounted to 52 tons and was valued at £404.

Schools.—The three schools within the Burgh are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Factories and Workshops.—A total of 85 premises fall under this heading and, in all, 173 inspections were made during the year. One defect only was discovered and this was remedied at once.

BURGH OF LOCKERBIE.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 33 (19 males, 14 females).

During the year 36 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 30 (16 males, 14 females). The principal causes of death were: Cancer, 8; Apoplexy, 6; Heart Disease, 4. There were no deaths of children under the age of one year.

Infectious Disease.—Seventeen notifications of infectious disease were received: Respiratory Tuberculosis, 10; Whooping Cough, 6; Food Poisoning, 1.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

The following report has been prepared from information supplied by Mr C. McPhail, Sanitary Inspector of the Burgh of Lockerbie:—

Water Supply.—Plans and contract documents have still not been received from the Consulting Engineers for the proposed minimum remedial measures which are to be carried out at the reservoir.

A waste water inspection was carried out by inspectors from Edinburgh Corporation Water Department during June, and they reported 16 underground bursts and 136 defective fittings. Meter readings taken before and after the inspection showed that the night flow had been reduced by 955 gallons per hour, or a saving of approximately 23,000 gallons per day.

The supply was well maintained throughout the year and regular analyses by the Medical Officer of Health showed the water to be suitable for domestic use.

Drainage.—The drainage and sewerage system satisfactorily carried out its function without giving cause for complaints.

Sewage Purification.—The reconstruction of the sewage works was completed in September, but the final effluent has not been satisfactory. Owing to the large amount of slaughterhouse offal, wool, etc., which was reaching the sewage works, the Town Council propose to instal a "Parkwood" mechanical screen at the slaughterhouse; and analyses are being taken of the effluent from the cheese factory, which, during the summer season, processes approximately 25,000 gallons of milk daily, and condenses approximately 35,000 gallons of whey, into powder, daily.

Cleansing.—Household and trade refuse is collected twice weekly and during the summer months, special collections of

garden refuse take place every month. Collection is by means of a cleansing motor vehicle of ten cubic yard capacity. Disposal is by controlled tipping on a low-lying marshy site about a mile outside the Burgh boundary. The tip is kept in good order and has not given cause for any complaints.

Slaughterhouse.—The slaughterhouse, which is under the control of the Town Council, was inspected regularly and was always found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition. A new slaughter hall, with hanging accommodation for approximately 320 sheep or calves, with lairage, mess room, etc., was completed in September and is proving very satisfactory. The entrance road and yard has been laid in concrete and is a vast improvement.

The number of animals slaughtered was as follows :—

Steers ...	...	...	...	...	1,246
Heifers ...	...	...	...	...	125
Cows and bulls	...	...	...	...	168
Sheep and lambs	...	...	...	...	107,865
Ewes and rams	733
Calves	14,253
Pigs	477

Total number of animals slaughtered	124,867
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Unsound Food.—Since the introduction of the new Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, in August the inspection and condemnation of unsound food, within the Burgh, has been undertaken by Dumfries County Council Sanitary Inspector's Department. but prior to that date a miscellaneous variety of foodstuffs, weighing 243 lbs., was seized with the consent of the owners and condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

Nuisances.—Twenty three nuisances were investigated, and remedied on verbal instructions to the authors.

Factories.—There are 34 factories in the Burgh, 32 mechanical and 2 non-mechanical. Nine minor complaints were rectified on verbal notification.

Offensive Trades.—During the year one of the local butchers recommenced tripe-cleaning on a very limited scale. This work is carried out at the slaughterhouse under the strict supervision of the Superintendent.

Schools.—Plans have been prepared by Dumfries County Council's Architect's Department for the construction of a new secondary school at Lockerbie, and the conversion of the existing secondary school to a primary department. This contract is expected to commence in the autumn of 1957 and will include modern toilet facilities, dressing rooms, etc.

Pest Control.—Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, Dumfries County Council has made available to the small Burghs the services of their Pest Control Officer. The services of this Officer are always readily available and have been obtained for three premises during the year.

Housing.—There are 109 applicants on the waiting lists for Council houses and twenty houses are nearing completion. During the year, five houses which had been re-let under licence, were closed.

BURGH OF LANGHOLM.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 25 (9 males, 16 females), of which one was illegitimate.

During the year 15 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 35 (16 males, 19 females). The chief causes of death were : Heart Disease, 16 ; Cancer, 8 ; and Apoplexy, 6. There were no deaths of children under the age of one year.

Infectious Disease.—Four notifications of infectious disease were received — Dysentery, 2 ; Paratyphoid Fever, 1 ; Respiratory Tuberculosis, 1.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

The following report has been prepared from information supplied by Mr A. Brebner, Sanitary Inspector for the Burgh of Langholm :—

Water Supply.—The water supply which is solely gravitational is derived from a number of springs situated in the hillside outwith the Burgh and is therefore subject to seasonal variation. During the early part of the summer the daily consumption

exceeded the daily intake from the springs with a consequent rapid and alarming drop in the level at the clear water cistern. Restrictions on the use of water for all purposes were applied for the period 31st May to 12th July, and together with waste of water inspections, the repair of defective fittings, underground bursts and a fractured main, the situation improved considerably and no further shortage was experienced.

The County Health Department intimated that one of the quarterly samples of water was bacteriologically unsatisfactory. An examination of the springs revealed that surface water from hill drainage was gaining access to one of the sources. This area was drained and the surface water diverted from the spring.

Drainage.—The drainage and sewerage system has operated satisfactorily without giving cause for complaint.

The Solway River Purification Board has again intimated to the Town Council that the effluent discharging into the River Esk from the sewage disposal works is still sub-standard. A preliminary report from the Consulting Engineers on the provision of new works has been under consideration by the Town Council, but no decisive action can be taken until the Engineers present a further report on alternative sites.

Cleansing.—Household and trade refuse continues to be collected three times weekly by motor vehicle. Disposal is by controlled tipping at High Mill situated outwith the Burgh. The tip is kept in good order. Waste paper is collected once a week, baled and despatched to the paper mills.

Housing.—There were no new houses completed by the Town Council during the year but a tender has been accepted for the erection in West Street of a three-storeyed block consisting of four 4-apartment and eight 3-apartment houses.

Factories.—There are 3 non-mechanical and 26 mechanical factories in the Burgh. The sanitary facilities for both sexes in a tweed mill have been completely replaced with appliances of modern design.

Nuisances.—Complaints of nuisances were dealt with by verbal intimation.

Slaughterhouses.—There is one private slaughterhouse in the Burgh and the premises were maintained in good repair and in a cleanly condition.

Information as to meat inspection and condemnation is contained in the report of the County Sanitary Inspector.

Offensive Trades.—The skin works have been maintained in a satisfactory manner.

Burial Grounds.—There were no interments in the burial ground within the Burgh.

Schools.—Langholm Academy and the Infants' School have been kept in a clean and tidy condition.

BURGH OF LOCHMABEN.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 23 (10 males, 13 females).

During the year 21 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 11 (7 males, 4 females). The principal cause of death was Cancer, from which 4 persons died.

Infectious Disease.—Nineteen notifications of infectious disease were received — Whooping Cough, 16; Respiratory Tuberculosis, 2; Non-respiratory Tuberculosis, 1.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

New houses.—No new houses were erected by the Council during the year.

One private enterprise house, of four apartments, was completed during the year.

Improvements to houses.—Alterations were carried out to three dwelling-houses.

Proposals for improvement works to 3 dwellings were approved and improvement grants promised.

Plans.—Thirteen plans were submitted during the year. Of these, one concerned major works to a house and shop premises, six were in respect of works at dwelling-houses, and the remainder included provision of a petrol filling station, installation of petrol tanks and pumps at builders' yards and toilet facilities for a

caravan. Reports on these were prepared and submitted to the Council.

Minor Warrants.—Fifteen minor warrants were issued during the year for works comprising, in the main, the erection of green-houses, garden sheds and private garages. In all, sixty-three visits were paid to properties in connection with works proposed and in progress.

Demolition and Closing of Houses.—No Demolition or Closing Order was made during the year. One dwelling-house was demolished—this house had become dangerous.

Drainage.—Routine visits were paid to the Sewage Disposal works. Minor works comprising the provision of two additional manholes on a previously inaccessible portion of the sewer were carried out.

Twenty-one tests were applied to new drainage.

Water Supply.—Samples of the Burgh water supply were taken quarterly and submitted for analysis. These analyses showed the water to be satisfactory.

Refuse Disposal.—The condition of the refuse tip continues unsatisfactory in respect that blinding material is difficult to obtain and transport, consolidation cannot be carried out because of the restricted access and there is, in addition, the boggy nature of the tipping area to contend with. There is also quite a degree of unauthorised tipping of refuse by private persons and this is sometimes indiscriminate.

Factories Acts.—Ten visits were paid to factories within the Burgh during the year.

No complaint was received as regards these premises.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.—Anti-rat measures were taken to rid one property of rats. The use of poison bait was successful in this case. The refuse dump was kept under surveillance by the County Council rat-eatcher.

Unsound Food.—No unsound food was seized during the year.

General.—Five complaints were received during the year concerning structural defects of houses, choked drains, etc. The causes of the complaints were remedied in three instances.

A survey was made of the ground proposed to be made available by the Council as a caravan site. A report, including a plan, and toilet facilities, was furnished.

Visits were paid to the camping coach at the railway station.

BURGH OF MOFFAT.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 27 (13 males, 14 females), of which 4 were illegitimate.

During the year, 12 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 31 (17 males, 14 females). The principal causes of death were: Heart Disease, 14; Apoplexy, 7; Cancer, 3.

Infectious Disease.—Two notifications only of infectious disease were received during the year. In each case the patient suffered from Respiratory Tuberculosis.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

The following report was prepared from information supplied by Mr M. Heron, Sanitary Inspector for the Burgh of Moffat. Mr Heron's predecessors held office during the whole of the year under review :—

Water Supply.—The town is supplied with spring water by gravitation from a covered collecting tank at Granton which is approximately three miles north of the Burgh.

The supply is extended to serve several properties outside the Burgh, including part of the Beattock area. Samples were taken quarterly and the water found to be fit for domestic use in all cases. There was an ample supply of water at all times.

Drainage.—The drainage and sewerage systems continued to work satisfactorily and gave no cause for complaint.

Sewage Disposal.—The sewage works comprise sedimentation tanks, percolating filters and humus tanks. These continued to function satisfactorily and no complaints were received regarding them. The additional sludge drying beds, installed last year, have improved the efficiency of the works. As none of the drying beds are roofed over, however, additional beds will be required to give a margin in the event of prolonged wet weather.

Scavenging.—Domestic refuse was collected twice weekly and shop refuse four times weekly. Streets were swept by hand orderly at regular intervals.

Refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping on a site approximately one half-mile outside the Burgh boundary. The tip was kept in good order and gave no cause for complaint.

Salvage.—Waste paper was collected for salvage, one day in each week being allocated to this.

Nuisances.—Several complaints were investigated during the year. These consisted mainly of dampness in houses and choked drains. All were abated without recourse to statutory procedure.

Offensive Trades.—There are no offensive trades carried on within the Burgh.

Schools.—There is one public school within the Burgh. The sanitary accommodation was adequate and maintained in good order at all times. Considerable additions and alterations are in progress.

Factories.—There are 17 factories within the Burgh, 16 mechanical and 1 non-mechanical. Routine visits were paid. One complaint regarding sanitary accommodation was remedied promptly.

Unsound Food.—Meat and meat products weighing 173 lbs. and an assortment of fruits, vegetables and soups, etc., weighing 52 lbs. were seized, with the owners' consent, and disposed of as being unfit for human consumption.

Burial Grounds.—The burial ground within the Burgh is closed for interments except in special circumstances. No interments took place during the year. The grounds are kept tidy and no complaints were received.

Housing.—Two houses were reconstructed and received improvement grants under the Housing (Scotland) Acts, 1949-1952 during the year.

Two houses had closing orders in terms of the Housing Acts made in respect of them during the year.

No new houses were completed or were in the course of erection in 1956.

BURGH OF SANQUHAR.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births, corrected for transfers, was 42 (30 males, 12 females).

During the year 13 marriages were registered.

Deaths, corrected for residence, numbered 35 (16 males, 19 females). The chief causes of death were : Heart Disease, 15 ; Apoplexy, 6 ; Cancer, 4. One child died under the age of one year.

Infectious Disease.—Fifteen notifications of infectious disease were received — Whooping Cough, 6 ; Scarlet Fever, 5 ; Erysipelas, 3 ; Dysentery, 1.

Sanitary Condition of the Burgh.

The following report was prepared from information supplied by Mr Kenneth Phillips, Sanitary Inspector for the Burgh of Sanquhar. During the whole of the year under review, Mr Phillips' predecessor, Mr J. F. Allison, held this office.

Water Supply.—The reservoir overflowed throughout the year except during April, May and June, when the level of the water fell slightly. July and August were very wet months and it was unnecessary at any time to draw water from Dumfries County Council's supply. Routine samples of the supply gave satisfactory results on examination.

Drainage.—The drainage and sewerage system functioned satisfactorily.

Sewage Purification.—The sewage works were overworked and need constant attention. The filters were affected by the dry weather in March as there was insufficient dilution of the sewage. In April, whey from the Creamery caused ponding of the filters. The Creamery settling tank and screens were found to be inadequately attended during busy periods but the Manager agreed to adopt a daily routine.

Cleansing.—The County Council continued to collect the household and shop refuse twice weekly and in summer called once a fortnight for garden refuse. The refuse was processed at the County Council's disposal plant at Knockenjig.

An old quarry site at the brickwork belonging to the National Coal Board was available for depositing trade refuse.

Burial Grounds.—During the year 47 interments took place.

Schools.—Sanquhar Academy is the only school in the Burgh and the health conditions there gave no cause for complaint.

Factories.—There were 15 mechanical and 9 non-mechanical factories. 30 inspections were made and 4 defects were found.

Nuisances.—Six nuisances were investigated and action was taken to have them remedied.

Unsound Food.—104 lbs. of tinned whole egg were seized and destroyed.

Housing.—There were 93 applicants on the waiting list for Council houses but only 4 new houses and 2 reconditioned houses were made available.

2,316 complaints of defects in the 304 Council houses were received and attended to.